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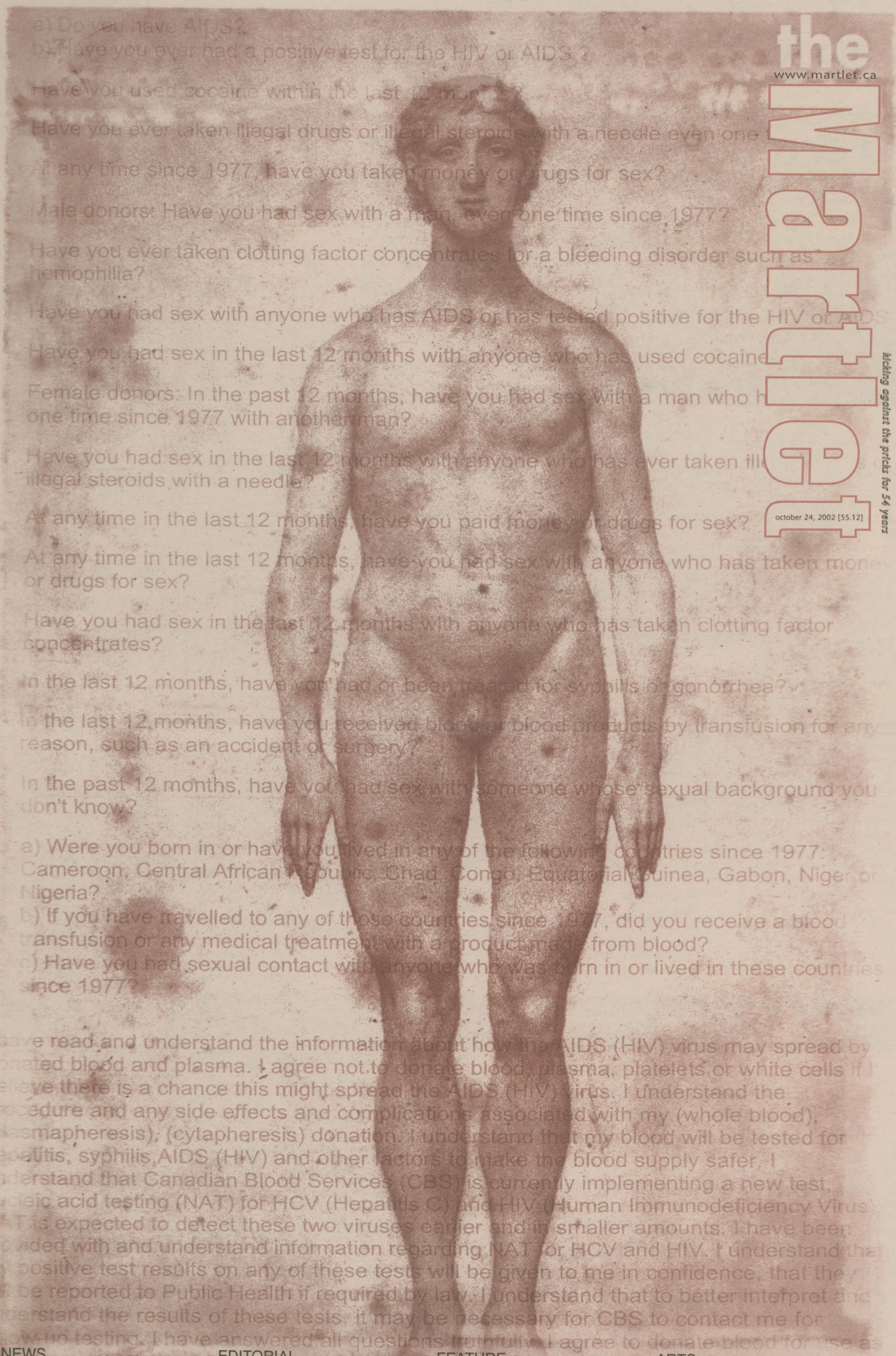

NEWS
Dead in the water:
SUB negotiations flounder
by John Thompson
page three

EDITORIAL
To serve and protect:
Learning through drama
by Tyrone Bibbens
page six

FEATURE
You rebel scum!
Polticizing *Star Wars*
by Leigh Phillips
pages eight and nine

ARTS
***Choke* on this!**
See also: Pretty good
by Lindsey Starr
page twelve

"Ring Around The Woods" promotes campus ecology

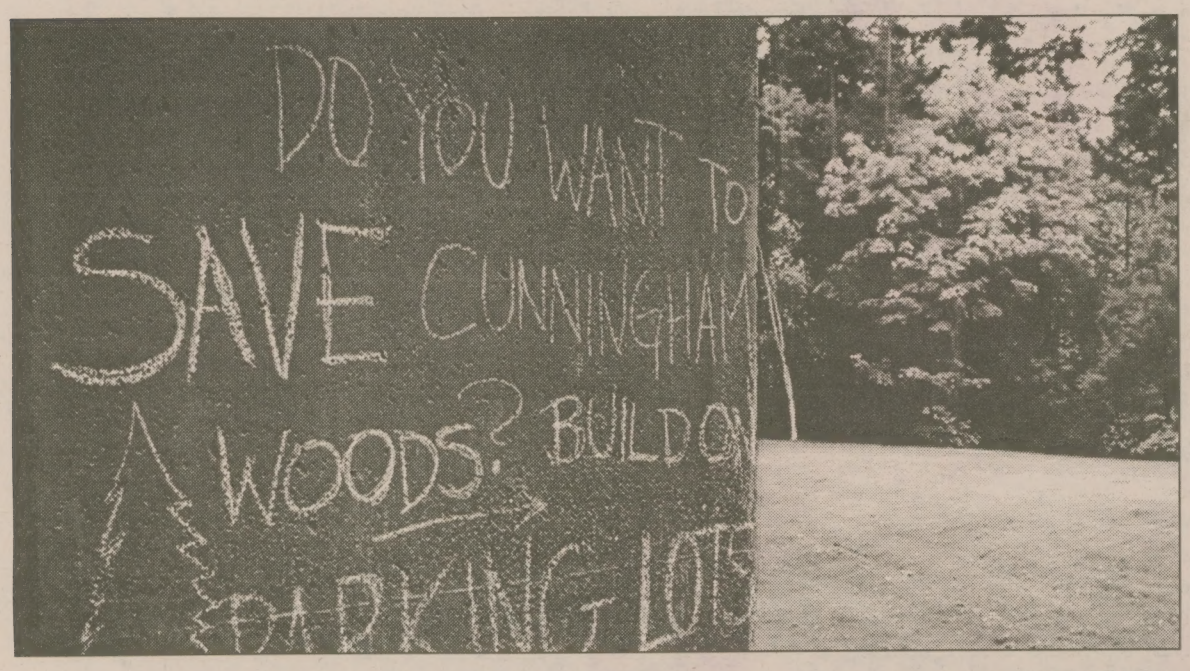

photo by Jeff Andrew

Trees not parking lots: Students opposed to developing Cunningham Woods will link arms around the slated area.

by Jeff Andrew

Though it's one of the last remnants of a forest that once covered the UVic campus, Cunningham Woods is slated to be cut down, and the space filled by a new medical research facility.

Located between the Elliot and Cunningham buildings, Cunningham Woods is home to a variety of species including Arbutus trees and second-growth Douglas Firs.

This is why a group of students calling themselves the UVic CommUnity For A Sustainable Campus are planning a demonstration at the Cunningham Woods. Dubbed "Ring Around The Woods," the group plans to stretch a ring of people holding hands around the forest.

"The goal is to form a symbolic ring of protection around Cunningham Woods," said organizer Justine Starke.

Scheduled to be built on the land currently occupied by the forest, the new Island Medical Program facility will cost $12 million and is expected to be completed sometime next year. The facility is being built in conjunction with the University of British Columbia and the University of Northern British Columbia.

Organizers of the demonstration say they are concerned that the Campus Development Committee (CDC), which approved plans for the building, is destroying a sensitive ecosystem without public consultation and without a finalized plan for development.

"UVic's greenspace is an asset to the entire region," said Starke. "It's one of the largest stretches of greenspace left in urban Victoria. The university is developing and taking it out without the guidance of a Campus Development Plan."

Jack Falk, vice president of finance and chair of the CDC, says until the new development plan is approved, the construction of new buildings should continue under the guidelines of the current plan. He defended the committee's choice of sites on logistical grounds.

"In this particular case, it's close to the science and biology buildings," he said. "The Cunningham Building is a logical link. It's a good academic site to choose."

And while he does not deny the environmental issues involved, he said he feels the benefits of the building's location outweigh the damage it will cause to the surrounding ecosystem.

"I don't like the (environmental) impact," he said. "But I think it is minimal, and I think it will be a great site for a great building."

"We have to put it somewhere," he added.

Environmentalists remain unconvinced. Justine Starke wonders why the facility isn't being built on one of the many parking lots on campus.

Others, like omnipresent environmental activist Ingmar Lee, are concerned that campus development is proceeding in entirely the wrong direction.

"We need to promote a vision at UVic that re-introduces humanity to the natural functioning ecosystem," he said. "Humanity needs to learn these skills. Otherwise it's all over."

"What else could be more important to teach at a university?"

"Ring Around The Woods" will take place at 2 p.m. on Oct. 28.

The Campus Development Committee will be holding an open house in the Student Union Building from 12-8 p.m. on Oct. 28 to discuss the Draft Campus Development Plan.

Unofficial UVic Web site spams students

by Matt Bigelow

Monsterpin.com, a new Web site devoted to the UVic academic community, has been annoying students by advertising its arrival with spam e-mails.

Though the site itself is not affiliated with UVic in any way, the spam emails associate the site with UVic and are addressed to "Members of the UVic community."

Val Elchuk, a fourth-year professional writing student, isn't happy with the emails she has received. In fact, she's angry.

"They sent me spam," she said.

Elchuk, who only uses her UVic account for UVic matters, has never publicly displayed this e-mail address. Yet, somehow the Monsterpin.com e-mails have made their way into her inbox.

Mel Klassen, senior programmer/analyst at UVic said acquiring UVic email addresses is easy.

"Within 30 seconds you can get most e-mail accounts [at UVic]," he said.

He said there are various ways to search out addresses when logged into the UVic computer systems. But there are also ways for students to avoid this spam.

"You can opt into spam blocking," said Klassen. "People get spammed by penis enlargement ads and Viagra ads all the time. UVic lets people decide if they want to receive these e-mails or not. Anybody with a UVic account can use the spam blocking program."

"As of this morning, Monsterpin.com has been added to the spam blocking program," he added.

Dietrich Wedegaertner is the UVic student who created Monsterpin.com. He said he admits it is unethical to send out spam.

"I get penis enlargement ads and Viagra ads all the time and I hate it," he said.

Wedegaertner said he sent out 18,000 emails and has only received about 10 complaints. "Maybe this can be good spam," he said. "This could have a positive impact."

Wedegaertner said Monsterpin.com aims to bring a community of people associated with UVic together to communicate via the forum on his website.

Wedegaertner would not disclose how he harvested the email addresses, but says that what he did is legal. "You just have to know where to look," he said.

Mayor Ben?

by Leigh Phillips

Victoria-Beacon Hill MLA Jeff Bray's staff looked on stone-faced as Ben Isitt, local activist-about-town and UVic student, launched his mayoralty campaign from inside the MLA's Fort Street constituency office.

The odd site for the campaign kick-off was chosen to highlight what Isitt calls the need to link municipal races across the province, this November, to the provincial Liberal government's cuts to public services.

"The City of Victoria's mayor must openly and effectively act as an opposition to the near-dictatorial powers of the Campbell Liberals," said Isitt. "Alan Lowe has refused to openly criticize this government in an effective way since Campbell took office. In fact, Alan Lowe's silence on the provincial government cuts can only mean that he likes what Gordon Campbell is doing to this city."

After a failed attempt at the June nomination meeting to put himself forward as the Victoria Civic Electors' mayoralty candidate, Isitt decided to run independently of the local progressive slate. However, arguing the need for a progressive candidate for mayor, Isitt insists, "the VCE membership has never had an opportunity to vote on my candidacy."

If elected, Isitt will focus on affordable, not-for-profit housing and a harm-reduction approach to drug abuse in Victoria.

The candidate would also introduce a $10 municipal minimum wage, as well as a new 25 per cent commercial tax on all business in the city. However, independent business and co-operatives would be eligible for a full reimbursement. The revenues gathered would be put into a "sustainable economy fund" which would go to pay for new initiatives like a tuition credit for students who lived within the city's boundaries and a system of light-rail transit. Isitt admits that such initiatives would tacitly support the off-loading of provincial programs onto the municipality.

Invitation to UVic's town hall meeting

Celebrate the university's successes and discuss its future plans at UVic's town hall meeting.

UVic President David Turpin will outline the university's progress toward the goals articulated in its strategic plan, as well as specific strategies for the coming years. In order to make it as convenient as possible for members of the campus community to attend, two sessions have been scheduled:

Wednesday, Oct. 30, at 12:30 p.m., SUB, Michele Pujol Room & at 3:30 p.m., Fraser Building, room 159.

For more information, call 721-6139.

University of Victoria

Blood Services back in SUB after ban lifted

by Norman Ed Baskerville

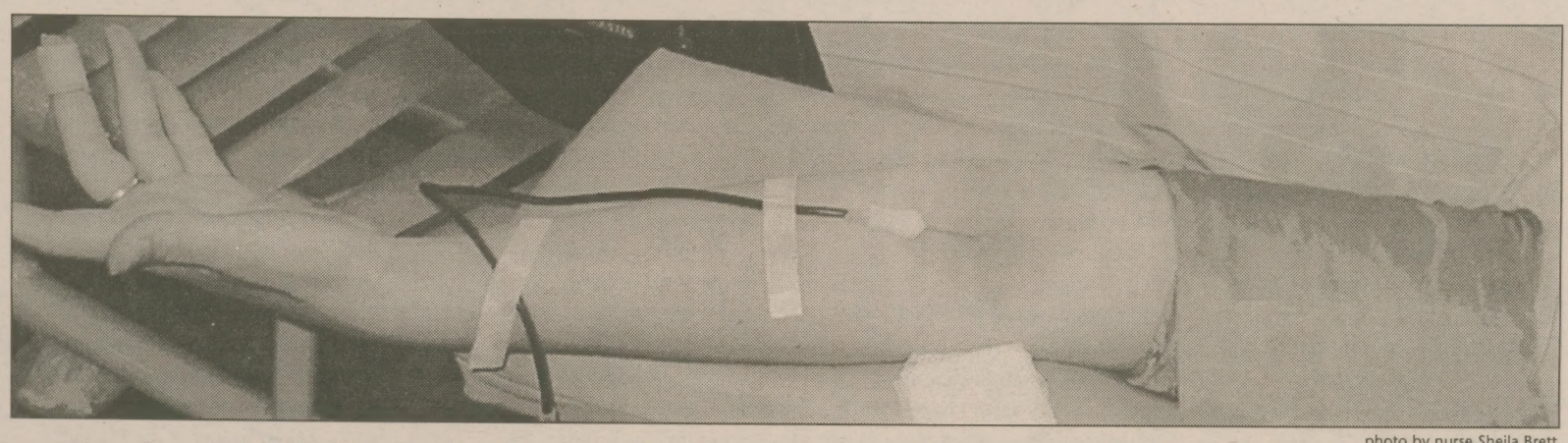

photo by nurse Sheila Brett

Joycelyn Beyak spills her blood inside the Student Union Building. Until this year, Canadian Blood Services hasn't been welcome inside the building's doors.

This week marks the first time Canadian Blood Services (CBS) has been allowed to operate in the Student Union Building (SUB) in recent memory.

The mobile blood donor clinic was banned from the SUB until this year by the UVic Students' Society (UVSS), as part of a national campaign against their controversial screening process. The UVSS Board of Directors lifted the ban in March of 2002.

"It had been felt that some of the screening process was homophobic in nature," said UVSS Director of Services Michelle Kinney.

The ban was lifted because of CBS' willingness to participate with the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) to evaluate the questionnaire's fairness, Kinney said. The national student group now has a seat on the CBS's screening evaluation committee.

"Canadian Blood Services has indicated that they are willing to work with the CFS in changing the screening process and addressing the discriminatory questions of concern," said Kinney.

There are two questions in particular that are opposed by student groups.

Question 18 asks, "Male donors: Have you had sex with a man, even one time since 1977?" while question 22 asks, "Female donors: In the past 12 months, have you had sex with a man who had sex, even one time since 1977 with another man?"

The CFS campaign argued these questions equate being a gay man with being at high risk for HIV/AIDS, which perpetuates the myth that AIDS is a gay man's disease.

"The questionnaire should evaluate donors by the safety of their sexual practice – not their sexual preference," said Kinney.

Dan Kerr, chair of UVic Pride, said the current questionnaire eliminates all gay men from donating while ignoring high-risk heterosexual activity.

The CFS has suggested replacing the controversial questions with ones inclusive of all sexual orientations such as, "Have you engaged in any of the following activities: unprotected anal or vaginal intercourse?"

Kinney said that the UVSS and CBS have worked together to set up information boards to inform students about the consultation process on blood donor screening and to explain that changes are in progress.

In past years, mobile donor clinics operated in the University Centre, but due to health regulations the CBS said that the centre was no longer an acceptable location.

"The SUB is the only place here they can operate. And the UVSS understands the importance of enabling students to give blood and its importance to our health care system," said Kinney.

According to CBS estimates, British Columbia will need to recruit over 25,000 new donors between now and 2005 to meet local needs. Hundreds of UVic students donate blood every year through the CBS program.

In the meantime, the existing questionnaire will continue to be used.

Summer McFayden, a CFS representative at the B.C. provincial branch, said any proposed changes must pass through many layers of bureaucracy. Local clinics cannot change procedures or policy, and Health Canada makes the final decision on whether any changes are acceptable or not.

"We understand that changing the questionnaire is a lengthy process that could go on for some time," said McFayden.

Kerr said, "Pride is confident that changes will occur, but understands that because the nature of the question is to eliminate high risk blood transmission, change will take time."

Kinney said that the UVSS has faith changes to the questionnaire will be addressed by the CBS. However, she said if changes haven't occurred by next year, the UVSS should consider reinstating the SUB ban.

SUB union negotiations dead in the water

by John Thompson

Negotiations between workers and management inside the Student Union Building (SUB) have been dead in the water since the beginning of October, when both parties agreed to disagree over terms for a new collective agreement.

The workers who sell collated photocopies, slices of pizza and pitchers of beer inside the building have been represented by the United Steelworkers Assocation since they unionized in 1989. Bargaining for a new agreement began in May, with workers asking for a pay increase roughly equal to rates of inflation, said union president Andrew Buydens. Then talks fell through.

"I think there was definitely a sense of frustration," Buydens said of walking away from the bargaining table. "We couldn't get anything done, and it seemed to be at an impasse."

Besides demanding a wage increase, workers are also upset with concessions they're being asked to make, Buydens said. Discounts on food and free soft drinks and coffee are common in non-unionized shops and restaurants, he said, but SUB management has discussed taking these benefits away.

"Right now we have free soft drinks, free coffee on shift. They're trying to take that back," he said.

But with an accumulated deficit of over $1 million, the student union has little choice but to cut costs, said General Manager Marne Jensen.

Operating costs for the building have skyrocketed since 1996, she said, with the installation of industrial ovens and boilers that will soon have to be replaced.

But the biggest setback came last fall, when a routine audit revealed hundreds of thousands of dollars were missing from SUB businesses like Felicita's and Vertigo.

"Unfortunately, we had a situation where a manager of the building wasn't reporting accurately," Jensen said.

The fall-out from this financial crisis places the student society in "a steadily deteriorating financial situation," Jensen said, requiring them to cut future costs.

"Every time a collective agreement comes up, workers ask for a raise," she said. "That's to be expected. But we can't take any risks in the future."

"Our bank is watching us, and if we take one more step backwards we may put at risk the student society's ability to run the building," she added.

She estimates student workers have made wage gains of around 10 per cent over the past four years. Last year, wage increases cost the student society $72,500.

Jensen said even with concessions made over food and drink discounts, SUB employees fare well compared to their private sector counterparts.

"Our workers do quite well compared to the private sector," she said.

"It's unheard of to have a sick bank in private sector stores and restaurants," she added.

The building employs around 150 students, with roughly 50 full-time staff. Workers begin at $9.75/hr.

Buydens said workers feel they're being asked to pay for mistakes made by management.

"Obviously they're not happy. A lot of them feel management has gotten us into the financial crisis we're in, not workers," he said. "We're taking the brunt of the cutbacks."

Negotiations will resume in December. Until then, the current collective agreement stays in place.

"This isn't an emergency. The collective agreement continues until the new one is signed," said Jensen.

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Wednesday November 6th
SUB Room B028
Two Talks: 12:30 & 3:00
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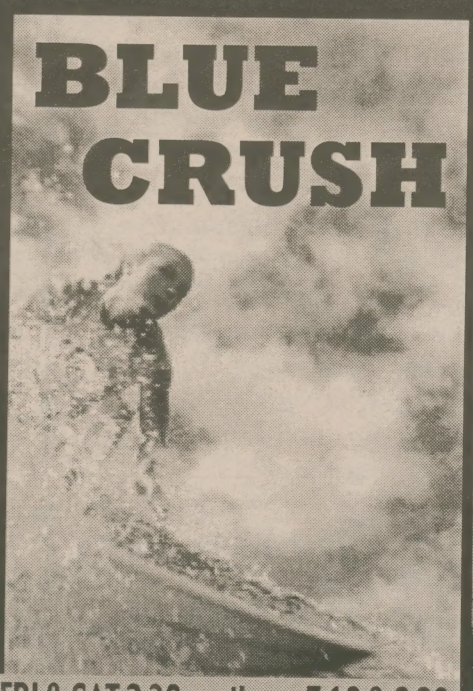

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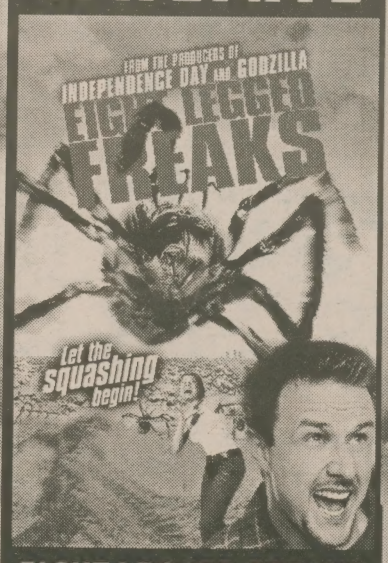


EIGHT LEGGED FREAKS
11:30 PM ONLY

(MOSTLY MARTHA IS CANCELLED)

SUN 2:30 matinee; 7:00 & 9:10
MON 7:00 & 9:10

Turpin time

President speaks

by Robin Platts

Students will get a chance to grill UVic President David Turpin after his presentation at two "town hall meetings" on Oct. 30. The meetings take place at 12:30 p.m. in the Michèle Pujol Room in the SUB and at 3:30 p.m. in room 159 of the Fraser Building. Both sessions will feature a presentation by the president, followed by a question period.

According to the UVic Web site, the meetings are an opportunity "to celebrate the university's successes and discuss its plans for the future." Turpin will talk about the progress that is being made in terms of UVic's strategic plan, "A Vision for the Future," and the university's other strategies for the coming years. The site promises that Turpin "wants to hear what students, faculty, and staff think about the future."

Two-foot express: Peter Janes survives Island trek

by Jeff Andrew

So what's the farthest you've ever walked? To campus? To the grocery store? Maybe you've been in a Fun Run or two. Maybe you've even done some trips through the backcountry and fancy yourself a hiker.

Bah. You're all a bunch of lightweights.

This summer, Peter Janes walked Vancouver Island. That's right, the whole thing. From Cape Scott to Victoria, he trekked across 800 km in 10 weeks, traversing logging roads, thick bush, frozen mountain passes and southern coastal trails.

Next week at UVic, Janes will host a slide show documenting his trip. He plans to show pictures of the terrain he passed through on the Island, and discuss the related environmental and cultural aspects of his adventure.

"I want to show people the Island, relate my personal journey and put both of those things in the context of the larger world as a whole," said Janes.

Janes stresses his trip was not a macho attempt to prove his abilities. Rather, it was a challenge both to himself and to society to reconsider the way we live and interact with our environment.

"I feel that many of our environmental problems are the result of our strange and artificial human cultural reality," he said. "So in a way, I attempted to shock people into some critical reflection concerning their personal lives and choices, and hopefully have motivated some people to make some positive changes with the 'collective good' in mind."

Carrying a 70-litre pack and averaging 10 km a day, Janes travelled through clearcuts and over mountains, across long valleys and rainforests and down the West Coast and Juan de Fuca trails before finally arriving in Victoria. Although friends and family accompanied him for short segments, he spent most of the time hiking alone, a situation that he says suited him just fine.

"When I'm by myself in the wilds, I have absolutely no problems being alone," he said. "I'm content. When I'm by myself in a city or RV park I feel very alone."

The trek across the northern parts of the Island proved to be both the most difficult and most rewarding part of the trip. Contrasting with the devastation of the intensely logged forests was the stark, isolated beauty of the Tlupana mountain range.

"Heavy bush, high alpine, extremely difficult and beautiful terrain…absolute remoteness and solitude for eight days," he said. "The mountains there were absolutely amazing and touched by very few feet."

Food for Janes' trip was donated by a number of Vancouver Island businesses, and left for Janes at various drop-off points. He had hoped to obtain hiking gear through sponsorship from the Island's outdoor/recreational businesses, but was unable to find support for his trip.

"I had absolutely no success trying to get gear donations, beyond some natural 'body-care' products from ClimbOn! Inc.," he said. "The outdoor industry was uniformly uninterested in my plans."

Contrary to what Janes said many people expected, his trip saw no hair-raising adventures or brushes with death. In fact, Janes' biggest problem was a lack of quality hiking boots. In the course of his journey he blew out three pairs.

"There were no crazy epic dangerous situations," he said. "I tried hard to keep the experience away from crisis, in order to complete it."

Peter Janes' slide show will take place on Oct. 29, at 12:30 in CIT 110.

Campus group scares up food for charity

by Ayla Newhouse

This Halloween, students at universities across Canada will have an opportunity to dress up in their most outrageous attire for a good cause. But instead of asking for candy as they trick or treat, students will request non-perishable food items, which will be donated to local food banks.

The program, called Trick or Eat, is spreading all over Canada this year.

Kimberly Moss, one of two coordinators bringing Trick or Eat to UVic, heard about the program during a retreat for Millennium Scholarship National winners in Ottawa this fall.

"It's fun for students and it's also for a good cause," she says. "It's an easy thing that university students can do to help their community and meet other students who are interested in getting involved in volunteer work."

Moss was introduced to the idea at the volunteer fair during her retreat, where Jeff Richardson and his colleagues set up a booth for Meal Exchange, a nation-wide organization dedicated to feeding the hungry. As the general manager of Meal Exchange, Richardson is in charge of getting the program up and running on campuses by supplying resources, advice and posters.

"We want to get students more involved in the community," says Richardson. "The vehicle we use to do that is addressing hunger in the country. By starting this program, we hope to get students involved in other aspects of volunteer work as well."

Members of the community think that Trick or Eat is a good idea.

"What a great way to help others less fortunate than ourselves. It's great that university students have taken the initiative to help others in the community," says Barb McLeod, a Victoria homeowner. "I'll make sure to have some non-perishable goods on hand when the 'Trick-or-Eaters' come to my door."

While this is the first year that UVic will be involved in the program, last year 21 Canadian universities participated with great success. This year Richardson hopes to see as many as 45 involved.

Moss wants to get at least 100 UVic students involved this year and hopefully expand the program throughout the next few years. In the near future, she and Sharon Gershony, another Millennium Scholarship recipient, plan to initiate another program created by the Meal Plan organization called Skip a Meal. The idea is that people can donate the points from one meal on their food card and the money will be used to purchase food at wholesale prices to be donated to food banks or shelters.

For more information, and to get involved in Trick or Eat, contact Kimberly Moss at kimberlymoss@hotmail.com.

Help us plan our future!

The University of Victoria is continuing to consult on a Draft Campus Plan to guide the physical development of our campus. B.C.'s youth population will grow in the next 10 years and so will the demand for university education. In order to manage and accommodate this growth, while respecting the natural environment, we are seeking the advice of the local communities we serve.

Two public meetings held in the spring provided much valuable feedback. Two more information open houses in October will give Greater Victoria residents and the campus community an opportunity to provide comments and suggestions on the Draft Campus Plan. Those interested in engaging in more in-depth feedback may also choose one of three workshops in November.

Open Houses – Drop-in
Saturday, October 19
11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Cadboro Commons
Conference Centre

Monday, October 28
12:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Student Union Building

Workshops – Pre-Register
Thursday, November 14
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

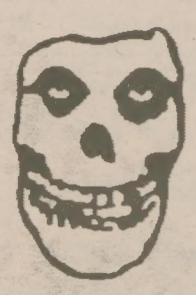
Monday, November 18
12:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 23
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The November workshops provide an opportunity to discuss the Draft Campus Plan in detail. Small group sessions are scheduled to encourage collaborative discussion. To pre-register or for more information, click on "Consultation Process" at www.uvic.ca/draftcampusplan or call CitySpaces Consulting, which is coordinating these events, at 383-0304.

Copies of the Draft Campus Plan are available at www.uvic.ca/draftcampusplan and at campus and Greater Victoria public libraries, the Oak Bay and Saanich municipal halls or by calling UVic's Facilities Management department at 721-7591.

University of Victoria



UTOPIA

Kummoniwannascareya

October is here. Someone is bound to invite you to a party. So come on down to Market Square and try on a great selection of Halloween wigs, hats & costumes

564 Johnson Street Market Square
383-5945

o, martlet

in the basement

of a scary building

no pink butterflies

flutting through the air

come write for us and show that you're

more gooder than this crappy poem.

sub b011

Build housing now, say downtown squatters

by David Ball

By the dim light of candles, the maze of rooms, kitchens, and corridors of Victoria's homeless squat flickered with shadows last Wednesday night.

Street people and their supporters moved about confidently, finding their way up the dark stairs to a midnight organizing meeting, only eight hours after members of the Anti-Poverty Coalition (APOV) cracked open the doors of the building that had been abandoned for 15 years.

Following a wave of similar housing squats across Canada, from Toronto to Vancouver, activists occupied the Pandora Street building on Oct. 16 and hung a banner from the roof that read "Build Housing Now."

"Why the hell should we let somebody own the building for 15 years who doesn't use it?" asked a squatter who identified herself only as Sarah. "We're the ones who need it, not them."

Sarah, 17, has been homeless for seven years, she said.

On Thursday, a day after the squat opened, the building's owners handed squatters a court injunction and ordered them to leave. In response, squat organizers called a support rally for 6 p.m., which attracted around 100 people and the media.

Faced with the threat of a police invasion, all but two homeless men abandoned the building. At 11 p.m., at least four police cars, two fire trucks and several ambulances parked in front of the squat. A witness described about 25 police officers emerging from the cars wearing bike helmets.

"It was like they rehearsed it," said UVic student Serena Katoaka, who was among seven supporters chatting outside the squat entrance when police arrived. "They all emerged at the same time in formation."

Katoaka said one of the police leaders pushed her out of the way, even though she said she was facing away from him and not intentionally blocking his path.

"He pushed me with both his hands on my back," she said. "He came up behind me and pushed me. It was intentional, it wasn't like he just walked into me. I asked him not to push me and said I'd be willing to move."

Police then set up floodlights and washed the building in bright light powered by the fire trucks. Witnesses said officers searched every corner of the spacious building for people.

But according to one of the building's owners, Peter Laughlin, the issue was more about trespassing and safety than homelessness.

Laughlin said he is a member of the company that purchased the building last month. The company, an unnamed, numbered Victoria company, develops properties across Victoria and has plans to turn 528-532 Pandora into residential housing.

"These people are trespassing on private property," Laughlin said. "We will take appropriate action to have them removed. We can occupy the building and nobody else can occupy the building. Our concern is for the health and safety of all Victorians, not just a minority."

Overhearing this remark, one squat supporter asked Laughlin how health and safety could be addressed while people sleep on the streets.

Laughlin responded that the building did not have adequate fire safety to protect against the danger of a fire if it were inhabited.

For many supporters of the squat, the inadequacy of the building for housing reinforced their demands that lodging for Victoria's homeless must be both affordable and safe.

"It's about time we start reclaiming these derelict buildings to start providing social housing for people who need it," said squat supporter Bobby Arbess. "The market economy is denying a lot of people the basic right to housing.

"Housing is viewed as a commodity. If you don't have the money to get a roof over your head, the system tells you to live on the street."

APOV released a set of the squat's demands, including that the City of Victoria buy back the building from the current owners and turn it into social housing, and that the provincial government reverse its cuts to social assistance. This summer, the government slashed its housing allowances in welfare payments.

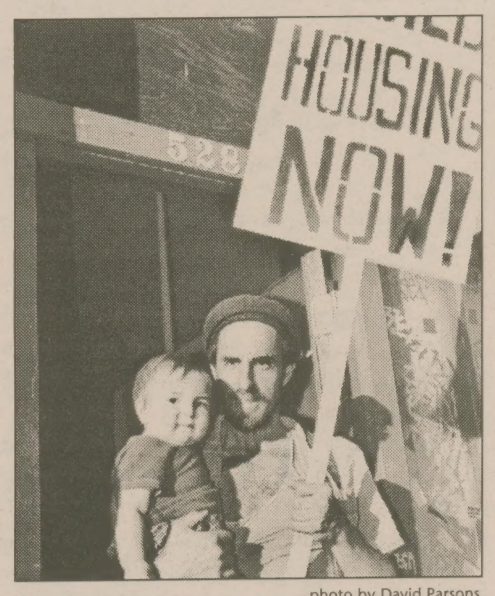


photo by David Parsons

Bobby Arbess hangs out in the doorway of the 528 Pandora housing squat, with son Mischa Arbess-Goudge.

On Friday, APOV delivered a letter to Mayor Alan Lowe's office, but when office workers disappeared behind a plastic barrier the activists folded signed letters of support into paper airplanes and launched them over the wall into the office.

APOV said, though short-lived, the squat successfully raised awareness of Victoria's housing crisis.

Progressive lefties launch civic election platform

by Leigh Phillips

The progressive slate in Victoria's upcoming municipal elections, the Victoria Civic Electors, launched their platform Tuesday morning. Focusing on affordable housing, sustainable transportation, expanding green spaces and community safety, the VCE hopes to present itself as an alternative to the right-of-centre municipal policies of the Bob Cross and Alan Lowe-led councils of the past few years.

"Whether it's cleaning up the environment, preserving our heritage, or promoting new investment, our plan reflects our sense of the priorities of Victoria families and communities," said Pam Madoff, one of the slate's three sitting councillors.

Madoff also expressed concern over attempts by the provincial Liberal government's attempts to off-load services to municipalities. "The B.C. government is likely planning to increase municipal taxes to pay for its provincial tax cuts for the richest British Columbians," said Madoff. "We will stand up against the BC Liberals' efforts to increase taxes and cut services in our city."

Rob Fleming, former UVSS director of finance and long-time campaigner with the Canadian Federation of Students, is one of the slate's three incumbents, along with Madoff and Denise Savoie.

"The VCE is not afraid to speak up for our communities if Gordon Campbell breaks his promise to not download to municipalities in his Community Charter legislation," said Fleming. "Our platform is pledged to address the interests of seniors, youth, and low and middle income families. Electing a VCE majority will ensure our citizens have a strong voice."

Voting will take place Nov. 16.

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Editorial

To Serve and Protect

This play is presented as part of the Martlet Players' "Learning through drama" series.

(*Four friends sit in the booth of a coffee shop.*)

STEVE: I spent the whole summer of '78 hanging out at Studio 54. I just came off the road from a Village People tour.

JON: No way!

STEVE: Way. I roadied for them. So I was at 54, like, every night. Men, women. You know, it was 1978.

JON: Like, anything goes.

STEVE: Exactly. In those days, *Penthouse* ran homoerotic letters, remember? But now, I want to give blood, and they won't let me.

JON: Dude! I was filling out the questionnaire and I remembered this camping trip I went on in 1980, me and two buddies.

STEVE: Oh yeah?

JON: We drank some beers, smoked a joint. We were all wearing tight cutoffs and we started wrestling.

STEVE: Aaaah.

JON: So Rick gets me in a headlock between his thighs and...

STEVE: Yeah, I get the picture.

JON: But we all wore condoms. Roughriders.

STEVE: Right, the studded condom. Or was it ribbed?

JON: Either way, it was good times. Extra pleasure. I always wore one.

STEVE: Me too. Always. And if I was feeling selfish, I'd just turn it inside out.

JON: Right, so you got the studs.

STEVE: Or ribs. But now, I'm doing this questionnaire from Canadian Blood Services (CBS) and I can't give blood, because I've had sex with men since 1977.

BETTY: Listen, I hear what you guys are saying, but I don't think the questionnaire is wrong.

STEVE: It's homophobic.

JON: It's discriminatory.

BETTY: It's practical.

TOBIAS: Betty's right. I'm sorry you guys can't give blood, but the questionnaire could save lives.

BETTY: By excluding gay men, or men who have had gay encounters, which is, like, five per cent of Canada's population, they can reduce the odds of getting HIV-positive blood by 70 per cent.

STEVE: Whoa. Whoa. Why does it have to be about gay and straight? What about a straight guy who has had unprotected anal sex with a woman?

BETTY: Well, as long as they're both straight, there's no problem.

JON: Oh, right. Nobody straight ever got AIDS. And maybe no one straight ever had sex with someone who was mainlining before the date.

STEVE: Tell it, brother. Tell it.

JON: If you read that CBS questionnaire, it's like, "If you have ever had sex with anyone, don't bother." Because how are you supposed to know not only your partner's sexual history, but the sexual history of every partner they've ever had and so on?

TOBIAS: Obviously, you can't, but those questions are there to exclude high-risk people – straight, bi and gay – and thereby drastically reduce the odds.

BETTY: You want to politicize this, but don't go there. When someone's life might be at risk, you have to put politics aside and be ruthlessly practical.

STEVE: But why not just say, "Have you ever had unprotected sex or had sex with a partner who has had unprotected sex?"

JON: How about, "Ever freaked without a jimmy hat?"

STEVE: Wouldn't that achieve the same goal without singling out gay men?

TOBIAS: Well, sure. It's just easier to focus on gay men.

STEVE: But if the sex is protected, what does it matter if it's gay or straight?

TOBIAS: Well, maybe it doesn't, I guess.

STEVE: Okay then.

BETTY: You know, maybe Steve is on to something. It's not about the sexual orientation, it's about the absence of protection.

(*Steve, Jon, Betty and Tobias form a line, holding hands, at the front of the stage.*)

ALL: If we work together, we can overcome our differences, the world will be a better place. (*chanting in unison*) Protection, not orientation! Protection, not orientation! Thank you and have a safe evening.

Editorial topics are decided on by staff at editorial meetings. Editorials are written by one or more staff members, and are not necessarily the opinion of all staff members.

Don't like what you read?

Write us, or write *for* us: martlet@uvic.ca

on the spot

Heart on sleeve worn by Mark Samcoe (again)

So she still hasn't called back.

What do I do?

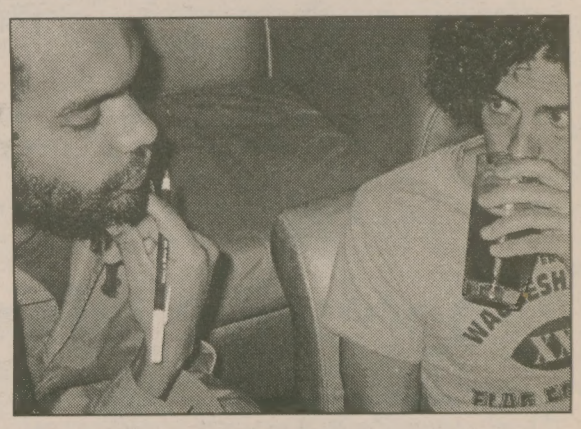
Khaaaaaaaaaaan!

Sharmeen Khan
Station Manager, CFUV

Khan: Is she white?
Samcoe: (*pause*) Yes.
Platts: You're trying to politicize this!
Khan: It's very political.
Platts: Are you saying a person of colour would act differently?
Khan: Man, if a white guy paid attention to me, I'd call them back right away.
All: Oh, man.

Adam Rudder
History Graduate

Rudder: Well. You don't need to reveal your heart.
Khan: Or hard-on.
Rudder: The thing is, you've already kissed the person.
Khan: That's not a big deal.
Rudder: Before I kiss someone, I want to know if they're going to hurt me. When you kiss someone you're opening yourself. His feelings have to be taken into account. If it was a man on the other side, you guys would be like, "Those assholes. Not calling me back." All that shit.
Khan: Well, I just say sometimes it's okay to do what feels right in your gut and not worry about the consequences in the short term. Which includes a kiss. Which includes calling back maybe a final time.
Rudder: At least be honest about it.
Khan: He is being honest. He wants to hang out with her.
Rudder: I'm talking about the woman. At this point, you can call her and say, "Were you playing games with me?"



Letters

Which of these is not like the others?

Peace, love and understanding
Recently, there have been calls to rally the community against the provincial government.

Theses calls are aimed at highlighting the need for solidarity between movements, action against regressive measures, and commitment towards collective change. A fundamental aspect of using community strength towards these ends is communication. While this may sound easy, and is often dismissed as being so, effective, honest communication is very difficult to achieve.

It should come to no surprise then that the most recent manifestation of community solidarity, the October 7 Day of Defiance, suffered from an acute lack of communication. This is not the result of any individual; rather, it is, in my mind, the result of the community itself.

While the Day of Defiance succeeded in bringing many campus organisers together to demonstrate opposition to the government, it failed to unite traditional allies on campus and has strained relationships that were once vibrant and dynamic. While there are many reasons that can be offered to explain why this happened, I believe that ineffective communication was a major impediment and should be explored.

At the heart of this communication issue is trust. If the university community is to rally together and demonstrate solidarity, act against regressive measures, and fight for collective change, there is a considerable amount of work to do. Trust is earned and not given. In order for trust to develop within our community we must disclose our intentions, recognise our limitations, and respect our differences.

I am confident that those qualities exist within the university community. The history of students fighting alongside workers demonstrates this. However, we must let go of personal objections and take the next step forward together.

It is incumbent upon the success of our community's opposition that we take the time to work out what grievances exist amongst us. The provincial government will not change its direction any time in the near future. We must take that time to build a strong, community movement that has the fortitude and conviction to truly challenge the government.

We owe it to ourselves, and those who have yet to join the struggle, to take on this challenge. Success will only come through a concerted collective effort and the UVSS is steadfast in its commitment for change.

Troy Sebastian
Chair, UVSS

Pervert pride
As the woman who facilitated the sex toy workshop, I want to make a few comments about Ryan Nast's letter (Oct. 10). I'm not on the cover, so your assumption that the woman is an "overexposed 'born-again' pervert" could possibly be true, although I don't know her. But it is definitely not this perv. I had nothing to do with the design, am not on the Martlet staff, and don't really have a dildo fetish.

Regarding the idea of someone having been "brutally molested by a dildo" being put into crisis because of the image, you'll find it's statistically much more common for someone to be abused by the real thing which every man walking around campus has stashed in his slacks. I am simply pointing out your specious reasoning and not asking for no men on the Martlet cover.

The *Concise Oxford Dictionary* defines "perverse" as deliberately or stubbornly departing from what is reasonable or required. Most of society would see me teaching women to be smart sex toy consumers as perverse. If true, then I'm proud to call myself a "pervert."

Tracey Coulter

Bush connected to oil? Surely not!
Bush has been banging the war drums ever since September 11. First it was Afghanistan, now he wants to go after Iraq, although there has been no hard evidence of connections between Iraq and al-Qaeda. Neither has there been evidence of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. Iraq does not pose an immediate threat to the U.S. There is no justification for war.

Any war on Iraq is likely to affect North Americans negatively. After Operation Desert Storm, thirty per cent of the soldiers sent to the Persian Gulf returned to live on disability. These soldiers are our sons, daughters, fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters. If you commute to work or school, expect to pay more for gas in the event of war. In a war on Iraq, more of your tax dollars would be spent on war material rather than education or health care, causing further degradation of our public services.

On top of all this, there would be the mammoth human cost in Iraq itself. According to Unicef, war and sanctions in Iraq have already cost the lives of 1.5 million people, many of them children. Sanctions have only increased Saddam's power, as Iraqis are now more dependent on him for supplies than ever. Twenty-two million Iraqis are suffering because the United States wants to remove one lunatic from power in order to feed their addiction to oil.

Now is the time to mobilize against a war on Iraq. I urge all of you to say no to war and no to sanctions on Iraq.

Daniel Sorensen
Student Senator, Faculty of Engineering

[2002/2003]

martlet

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Top 10 Rejected Canadian Blood Services Questions

1. a) If you were a tree, what tree would you be?
   b) Have you ever had sex with it?

2. Do you like "photography"?
   (Know what I mean? Nudge, nudge, wink, wink.)

3. Do you like The Sex?

4. a) Are you filling out this form in blood?
   b) Is it your blood?

5. In the past 12 months, have you had any sex, extraterrestrial or other, which you would consider to be risky?

6. *Star Wars Episode II: Attack of the Clones* – what's your opinion?
   _____ Liked it
   _____ Hated it
   _____ Had sex with it.

7. Are you now or were you ever having sex while filling out this form?

8. Have you ever had sex with this guy?

9. Since 1977, have you ever had sex with a gay British cow, who failed to reveal its sexual background to you, in an African prison, while using illegal drugs?

10. On a scale of 1 to 5, rate the "hot factor" of the Canadian Blood Services nurses? (Male and Female)

Type A gradu-phobia

by Suzanne Beaubien

Counting down the months until graduation, a seed of anxiety planted sometime last year is growing, taking over my waking moments. Six years ago, when I started here at UVic, things were different. Back then life was carefree.

But now even a trip to the library has become a source of stress. It's not the reading. It's not my late charges. It's checking out books that gets to me. When I flip out my student card and hand it over to be swiped, I see it: My student number, preceded by a "97." I've been here far too long, I think.

Since September it's got worse. The new swipe machines on the buses mean every time I ride to school, someone somewhere is lurking behind a master computer thinking, "Shouldn't this girl have graduated by now?"

Maybe I'm just paranoid.

Then Director of Academics Robert Oluka stops me in the SUB and asks if I'm attending the graduation orientation. It's in the Michèle Pujol Room, he says, sometime next week. I panic. Should I be? Yes, I should. If I don't, then I will forget to graduate and I'll never get out of here. If I don't write it in bold in my agenda, the months will slide by with me holed up in the *Martlet* office and come April I will realize that I, once again, will not be graduating.

I check my schedule. I can't go to the orientation. Could he take notes for me, I wonder.

But maybe graduating is not such a good idea. If I don't convocate, then I don't have to worry about four members of my family being together in the same room for any length of time. Wait: Maybe someone would trade two of their tickets for two of mine, and then I could run from one end of the auditorium to the other for my dysfunctional family photo-ops? Now I'm stressed.

This time last year, I realized my time was running out. I decided then that I didn't want to contribute to some lame statistic, as in, "such and such per cent of UVic alumni are working in the service industry 10 years after graduation."

So I looked for work, responsibility of sorts, tried to get all A's, volunteered, wrote for the *Martlet*. I was busy all right. But I had reason: I was going to graduate. Things were going great. I was accumulating skills, contacts, things I could put on my resume. I was meeting people, writing stories, taking photos, learning, learning, learning. And then, one day in her office, my favourite prof told me I had a "Type A" personality.

Type A is good, right? I thought to myself, "She didn't make it sound like a compliment, but A is like one and one is usually the best, the first, the winner. A has got to be better than whatever B is, at least."

No longer sure of myself, I did whatever any respectable student would do in the same situation; I typed in a Google search for "Type A personality."

There are many sites dedicated to the scientifically proven link between heart problems and Type A personalities. These sites make it sound like a disorder, or maybe even a disease. I take particular interest in one that has a test. English students don't get many opportunities for multiple-choice tests. I take it.

But I fail and, here in Internet-quiz-land, failure equates the nefarious Type A personality. The site says that Type A's tend to work long, hard hours constantly under deadline pressures and conditions of overload, carry work home on evenings and weekends, show an inability to relax, and feel misunderstood by their superiors. Big fucking surprise. I'm a student. Who among us is not Type A to some extent?

I shouldn't even be writing this article. I have homework to do, loads of dirty laundry and I'm moving next weekend. But what am I learning at university, if not to juggle responsibilities? And the more balls you have in the air, the better juggler you are, correct?

Regardless, in between typing this and doing my homework and laundry later tonight, I will find the time to double-underline in my agenda, "Graduate!"

Red Ochre

by Gordon de Frane

I remember that day as if it had happened only last month, last week, yesterday. It was the first time that I learned a secret that had been kept for many years in my family. It was the day I caught my mum and my Uncle Bob conversing in Hul'qumi'num'. I had stumbled upon them quite by accident. The words they shared were not English, not French. The words that danced from their lips were Hul'qumi'num'. The instant that I crossed the threshold their words got caught on their tongues, held tight by their teeth. Mum and Uncle looked at each other with that conspiratorial I've-got-a-secret look—the fight or flight response had been triggered. I had seen that look before. It was one that my brother and sister and I wore whenever we wanted something from our parents. It's the look of wolf cubs bent on getting a larger share of the kill from the folks.

Mum and Uncle had been talking in an ancient language. It was a sacred code they used. It had been taught to them by my sisulu—their mum, my grandma. Then, in the next moment my elders switched from the old words, from the lyrical sounds to the new harsh noises of the colonialist tongue.

Later, when just Mum and I were sipping tea and eating squw with the skimmings of the first batch of jam of the season, I ventured to find out more about her hidden skills speaking the old ways.

"Mum, I didn't know you knew more."

"More what," she replied.

"You know, that other day when I heard you and Uncle talking."

"You heard nothing but us talking about the old days on the Island—Reid Island, fishing and hunting and life on the water," she answered. There was nothing else said.

"But the words, the language he and you were talking before I walked in on you, what was that?"

Up until that day I had heard my mum speak only beads and buttons of Hul'qumi'num'. I didn't know she could carry herself in full necklaces. Until that day, between her and Uncle, Hul'qumi'num' was only used for ceremonial purposes, in simple words and simple phrases. Or it was used just to tease the unwary visitor and the like.

Mum paused for a moment before taking the next bite, the next sip. She fixed another familiar look upon me—actually held my eyes. I wasn't sure if tears were about to begin or if she was going to discipline me for my impertinence—I had asked and interrogated someone older, wiser than me. She gave a heavy sigh, popped the last piece of frybread into her mouth. She sipped the edge of her teacup. Then she looked at me again.

"It used to be that we would suffer if we got caught talking in the old language," she said. "Used to mean getting detentions, they called it. They being Nuns. Sometimes you got beaten for just one word of the old ways," she explained further. "I guess it's just hard to break them habits." She finished her tea. She stared into my eyes. I recognized an old pain rise to the surface, flooding her irises.

That's the way it was in the early to middle 20th century. If you got caught speaking your language you were punished. It didn't matter that your first language was Hul'qumi'num' or another indigenous language. We were taught to learn the newcomers' words. We were taught to think in newcomer thoughts. We were taught the newcomer ways: greed and avarice over sharing and giving. We were taught to try to pass. We were taught to submerge our own identities or else.

As it turns out, there are abalone fragments of Hul'qumi'num' spoken throughout my family. I would learn this later as I grew.

But what I learned on that day between Mum and Uncle was that if you were "Indian" in the old days, you did your best to hide it. You hid it from those who could use it against you.

Our family is woven like a sqwu'qw—mountain goat wool blankets—that uses Salish and Portuguese fibers to weave its intricate, complex pattern. Uncle learned to hide it early on in his life. For him, living as someone of Portuguese ancestry meant that he could go to war and fight for his country. When Uncle went off to war, he did so as an Anglo-Canadian—not an Indian. He fought to preserve an adopted way of life.

Like many aboriginal people, Uncle went off to fight for freedom and democracy. Meanwhile, his country fought vehemently to rid itself of indigenous peoples. The battle against First Peoples meant that those aboriginal warriors who returned were not heralded in the same manner as their Anglo-Canadian counterparts.

There was no land given to them. There was no house provided. There was no provision for education; no rewards, and no memorials for our red ochre warriors who returned to their respective reserves. But their ochre blood nourished the foreign lands, just as the blood of Anglo-Canadians soaked the earth poppy red. However, because Uncle wore a mask, he received the benefits and privileges and rewards accorded Anglo-European veterans that were denied to veterans of aboriginal ancestry. Uncle believed to his dying day that any admission of aboriginality could mean losing everything he received from Veteran's Affairs.

Of course, years later when many aboriginal veterans had gone on to reside with our ancestors, Canada made restitution, nominally that is. As for Uncle, he was able to mediate his aboriginal ancestry successfully and live white. Of course, to encounter Uncle or Mum would leave little doubt about the dominant ancestry's influence. Still, passing was a skill mastered by the older generation of many an aboriginal family.

Since that day of discovery when Mum and Uncle whispered sacred words between them, I have shunned the poppy red. I refuse to wear its shameful crimson stain. I refuse to forget that so many of my ancestors fought for what they could not share in.

I prefer to remember that red ochre blood was spilled alongside the poppy stains that infuse the land. I remember when our young men and women fought for freedom but were not free themselves.

LONG, LONG?

story by Leigh Phillips
illustrations by Jeffrey Weston

If Osama Bin Laden is Luke Skywalker, and George Bush is Darth Vader, who are the Ewoks?

Since September 11, there has been – ostensibly in the interest of sensitivities to relatives of the New York and Washington dead – a concerted corralling of the limits of debate on a number of subjects. Most obvious was the refusal until recently by all except sections of the European media to discuss possible "root causes" of the attacks. But we can also see the same sophistry at work in the recent polemical attacks on such progressives as Noam Chomsky for the Left's suggestion that perhaps there is something of a double standard when it comes to various people's support for the Rebel Alliance intergalactically, while opposing groups such as al-Qaeda and Hamas here on Earth.

The deliberate clouding of debate by these ad hominem attacks is not useful. There is much truth in what Chomsky et al have said about Skywalker's New Republic and its tactics of resistance to the Galactic Empire, both contemporarily and historically. We should examine their arguments without prejudice. If we are to oppose the Galactic Empire, we must, at the very least, be consistent in our positions terrestrially.

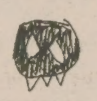
Five years after the Battle of Endor, Grand Admiral Ged Larsen (Emperor Palpatine's Seventh Grand Admiral) re-established the Imperial Order, out of the remnants of the Imperial Naval Fleet. Since then, there has been a very successful propaganda campaign against the New Republic/Rebel Alliance in all planetary systems controlled by the Empire. Although most Earthlings remain supportive of the Rebels, there are many on other planets who are being won to the Empire's position because of the toll of civilian deaths from Rebel Alliance attacks.

We cannot continue to support the Rebel Alliance while they use many of the same tactics employed by al-Qaeda or Hamas or FARC. Or, if we do, we must keep clear in our mind the difference between genuine freedom-fighting and terrorism, which means a considerable change in the attitude Western leaders and commentators here on Earth take towards terrestrial paramilitary groups.

Last September, most people were, quite rightly, horrified at al-Qaeda's attacks on New York. About 2,700 people were killed. But how many were horrified when the first Death Star was destroyed by Luke Skywalker and Han Solo?

The Death Star was indeed a most awesome weapon of mass destruction, 120 km in diameter, the size of a Class IV moon and the largest starship ever built. Half the battle station's interior was taken up by the super-laser, the super-laser housing and the accompanying reactor core, as well as sublight and hyperdrive systems. However, the quadanium steel outer hull and the four-km-deep main crust were made up of residential areas. These areas were split into 24 zones, 12 in each hemisphere. Each zone contained its own city sprawl. They had their own barbershops and schools. They had their own playgrounds and shopping malls and libraries and lawn bowling greens.

It may have been a planet-destroying super-laser, but it was also a community – a community where people found their first love, went to the dentist's office, saw silly romantic movies with their girlfriends, argued with their father-in-laws, wrote poetry, dreamt of being rock stars, held botulism-inducing bake-sales with the Rotary Club Ladies' Auxiliary for the Imperial Arthritis Society. A community like any here on Earth.



The Death Star had a crew of 265,000 soldiers and housed thousands of ground troops, but it also required many more hundreds of thousands of general workers and support staff – workers no different from you and me – bringing the total population of the Death Star to over a million beings. All of whom were murdered when the Rebel Alliance blew it up with a simple photon torpedo from an X-wing fighter.

Conservative critics of this position argue that, while a million were killed in the assault (although some also contest those numbers, saying it was more like 700,000), Grand Moff Tarkin – the commander of the Death Star and architect of the reviled Tarkin Doctrine – had already used the station to incinerate two planets: Despayre, the penal colony in the Horuz System where the Death Star was built, and Alderaan, the home planet of Princess Leia Organa. In the attack on Alderaan, some three billion inhabitants were killed.

If the Rebel Alliance had not destroyed the Death star, how many more planets would be blown up? One million innocents is an acceptable quid pro quo for the greater good, they say.

This may indeed be the case, and the analogy between the attack on New York and the attack on the Death Star begins to fall down at this point.

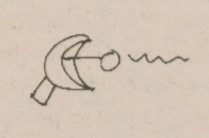
The World Trade Centre was not a planet-destroying super-laser.

But perhaps the analogy still holds with the attack on the Pentagon. The Pentagon is the headquarters of the most awesome military machine the world has known. In its time it, or rather those who have directed the machine, have been, in whole or in part, responsible for the deaths of more civilians in Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Chile, Argentina, East Timor, Iran, Iraq, Palestine, Yugoslavia, Japan, Grenada, Panama, Colombia, Mexico, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua than there were Jews killed in the Holocaust. And in last October's bombing of Afghanistan, according to aid agencies, around 3,700 Afghan civilians were killed – a thousand more than were killed in New York.

By the conservatives' own logic then, and that of the liberal supporters of the War on Terror, if the United States Government is the terrestrial equivalent of the Galactic Empire, then the attacks on the Pentagon were justified. Otherwise, it looks like a double standard in which we support the Rebel Alliance because they attack people we don't like and oppose al-Qaeda because they attack people we do. This position is plainly unsustainable.

However, it is possible to continue both to support Luke Skywalker and oppose Osama Bin Laden and remain consistent, but it requires a more robust and uncompromising position on human (and any sentient extra-terrestrial being) rights than that currently adopted by Western leaders.

Perhaps other examples can further illustrate this double standard.

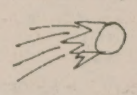


After the destruction of the Death Star, Luke Skywalker, Jedi Knight and later one of the founders of the New Republic, formed a hit-and-run guerilla group commonly known as the Rogue Squadron. A few years ago, there was a terrestrial video game children were fond of, based on tales of these supposed freedom fighters. Truly, Palestinian children cheering the attacks on New York last September are no different from the Earth children who have played this game. Their celebration of acts of violence far, far away is innocent and illiterate but is no less ghoulish for being so.

Famed throughout the galaxy for the daring, French Resistance-style raids on Imperial positions, the Rogue Squadron today engages, and historically – when they were fighting the Emperor Palpatine and Darth Vader, engaged – in activities that are, in truth, quite unsettling. Everyone knows of their strikes on Imperial garrisons and battles with TIE fighters amongst the stars, their protecting the homesteads on Tatooine and escorting supply convoys to Rebel bases. What many don't know, or ignore, is the "collateral damage" resulting from these fights or the outright slaughter of innocents that happens on a regular basis on planet after planet.

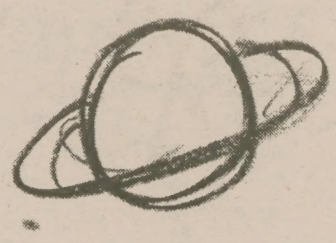
The assault on the Imperial garrisons on Kile II was celebrated on this planet, but many people chose to ignore the destruction of the nearby Imperial spaceport. This is no different from a bombing of an airport in America. While any military vehicles that may have been using the airport would have been destroyed, so would hundreds or thousands of civilian travelers. And this is exactly what happened at the Kile II Spaceport.

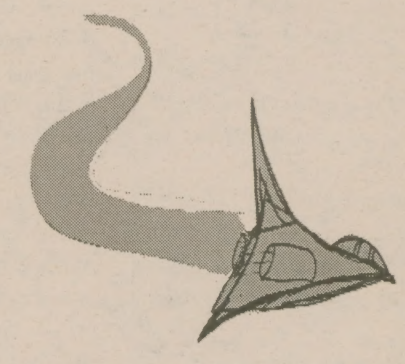
Shortly afterward, and also overlooked at the time, was that during the bombing of the AT-ST (All Terrain Scout Transport, or Scout Walkers) foundries on the planet Balmorra, the Rebels killed tens of thousands of Balmorrans who worked in the manufacturing plants. Until the attack, the Balmorrans had supported the Rebel Alliance, but were forced by the Empire, which was in control of their planet, to work in the factories. So not only are the Rebels responsible for the deaths of thousands of innocents, through their actions, they turned an entire planet toward the Empire.



And we see the pattern continue throughout the history of Rogue Squadron attacks. In the famous Raid on Sullust, the Rebels blew up transmitters, generators and a capacitor on the planet, each of which employed thousands of technicians and slaves. As did the attacks on the Imperial Tibanna gas containers in the Battle Above Taloraan. Although, to be fair, after that incident and probably sensitive to allegations of indiscriminate strafing of civilian areas, Rebel commanders began pressing pilots more emphatically to avoid civilian casualties.

None of this is intended to slander the Rebel Alliance – the majority of their raids are against military installations, and they do indeed avoid civilian deaths where possible. But if we are to condemn, as we should, Hamas and the al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigade when they despicably send suicide bombers into cafés and discothèques in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, then we must condemn the Rebels when they kill civilians too. And conversely, if we support the Rebels in their resistance to the Empire's occupation of





their home planets, and here on Earth condemn the Iraqi government for failing to comply with 16 UN resolutions, then we must support, for example, all those who are resisting Israel, which has failed to comply with 68 UN resolutions. We cannot condemn the FARC in Colombia when they use force to protect peasants from government-backed right-wing paramiltaries, only when they kidnap businessmen or kill other civilians. We cannot say that the al-Qaeda attack on the USS Cole was terrorism, but we can say that the Jemaah Islamiyah bombing of the Sari nightclub in Bali was.

There are other ways in which Chomsky's critics maintain a double standard. The biggest anti-war movement since the 1960s has emerged internationally in opposition to the war on terror and any attack on Iraq and in solidarity with Palestine. On Sept. 28, 400,000 Britons marched in London against the war. Previously, despite the metronomically regular appearance of multi-thousand strong anti-globalisation demos everywhere from Seattle through Quebec City to Papua New Guinea, apart from the odd three anarchists and a dog on a string on May Day, the movement had largely passed England by. So this is something.

On the same day, 1.5 million marched in towns and cities throughout Italy and 25,000 rallied in Central Park, New York. And yet, when the mainstream media has noticed that there is an anti-war movement, it is to denounce it for those few dozen attendees of the marches who carry pro-Bin Laden placards or banners that read something along the moronically anti-Semitic lines of "Swastika = Star of David." And while it is true that there have been such people at these rallies, what is not mentioned in the papers is the twenty or so parade marshals who ask these nutters to leave within minutes of their appearance.

So although the anti-war movement is working hard to expel the explicitly uninvited fundamentalists and anti-Semites, the media makes no mention of the religious fundamentalism at the heart of the Rebel Alliance – that ancient myth called The Force.

Honestly, is there a difference between the Jedi Knights of the Republic and the Mullahs of Iran? Ostensibly Iran is a parliamentary democracy, but of course we all know in truth it is an Islamic theocracy. The Old Republic was no different. While conservative commentators say otherwise, the Jedi High Council is a racket of superstitious zealots. And how is it that we decry the Madrassa schools along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border while we allow dirty old Jedi "Masters" with their David Copperfield magic tricks to steal away supposedly Force-sensitive youths from every planetary system to be taken Pied Piper-like to the creepy Jedi Academies?

Just as the United States was fine with Islamic fundamentalists as long as they were fighting the Reds in the '80s, they now look the other way while Jedi fundamentalism muddies the righteous struggle against the Galactic Empire. The Alliance needs to rid itself of this light-sabre-wielding irrationalism, just as the Palestinian Justice Movement needs to (and does) crack down on the anti-Semitism that occasionally (although even occasionally is too often) surfaces amidst the justified anger at the Israeli government.

Moreover, mainstream commentators rage, rage at the Tarkin Doctrine – the overarching policy doctrine of the Galactic Empire. And yet the Tarkin Doctrine puts together the worst aspects of the U.S. Patriot Act and adds them to the Bush Doctrine on an intergalactic level.

The Tarkin Doctrine, or Imperial Communiqué 001044.92v, was initially proposed by Moff Tarkin, earning him the title of Grand Moff, the highest ranking official under the Emperor and later commander of the First Imperial Death Star.

The Doctrine's guiding principle is rule through fear of force rather than through force alone. Under the Doctrine, Oversectors were set up throughout the galaxy to react to and monitor so-called tumultuous planetary systems. They also receive more Imperial forces than other sectors of the Empire. This Imperial presence is designed to suppress any existing or potential rivals before they become a threat. The secondary emphasis of the Tarkin Doctrine is increased surveillance of the galaxy and better co-operation between different Sector Groups through the placing of modified HoloNet transceivers aboard the flagships of every Sector Group. Furthermore, the Larsen Amendment, enacted by Emperor Larsen, allows for the use of Imperial intelligence agents of the Internal Organization Bureau in conjunction with Fleet Command and High Command to conduct covert activities in all territories and sectors.

In the October issue of *Harper's*, David Armstrong, a reporter with the National Security News Service, writes, in "Dick Cheney's Song of America," that the new National Security Strategy, popularly known as the Bush Doctrine, is a shift in U.S. foreign policy strategy. A shift from the Cold War's deterrence-based approach, wherein the presumed belligerent would be contained and with whom there would be co-existence, to a pre-emption-based approach, wherein the object of American suspicion is to be attacked before the country can grow strong enough to present a danger to the U.S.

The document announces a new policy of American pre-eminence in the world, aiming to prevent the emergence of any rival power, military or economic, "Our forces will be strong enough to dissuade potential adversaries from pursuing a military build-up in hopes of surpassing, or equalling, the power of the United States."

Armstrong argues that the NSS document openly articulates a strategy of American unilateralism and global dominance not simply as a reality that is unavoidable, but an ideal to which America and the world should aspire. While European commentators fret over the new, acknowledged, imperial American foreign policy, this radical new position has passed without notice, except to be endorsed, by mainstream American commentators. Only the expected sources of dissent – the left-of-centre magazines such as *Harper's* and *The Nation*, et al – have voiced concern, and even there, it has been muted. But how is it possible for writers such as Fareed Zakaria, editor of *Newsweek International* to one day sanction American "benevolent" pre-eminence in the world and the new Bush Doctrine, as he does in "Our Way – The Trouble With Being The World's Only Superpower," in the latest copy of *The New Yorker*, and the next, devote an entire issue of his own magazine to the oppression of the Galactic Empire's Tarkin Doctrine – which is nothing less than the Bush Doctrine on an interstellar scale.

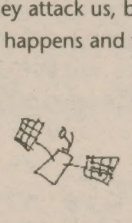
Zakaria finds as a particular example of the Empire's wickedness the assault on Thyferra, which produced the medical supplies for most of the sector. But what is the difference between this attack and President Clinton's 1998 ordering of missile strikes on the El Shifa Pharmaceutical Industries in the Sudan, charged with producing chemicals that could be put together to make VX nerve gas? The bombing was ordered three days after Clinton's prime time-TV apology for his affair with Monica Lewinsky – which, incidentally, when the usual left-wing suspects protested the attacks, resulted in one of the more humorous protest chants this author has heard: "No blood for blow jobs!" It later was shown that the pharmaceutical plant did, in fact, produce pharmaceuticals but neither chemical weapons nor the so-called building block chemicals with which to make them (it should probably be noted that one may also purchase the "building blocks" of all sorts of weapons of mass destruction from one's local K-Mart or hardware store).

The German ambassador in Khartoum, Werner Daum, sent a report to Bonn shortly after the bombing, saying that he knew the factory well, and that it could in no way be adapted to produce chemical weapons. Although only one person was killed in the attacks, much like the assault on Thyferra, the factory produced over sixty per cent of all medicines produced in the Sudan. We will never know how many thousands in the Sudan and neighbouring countries in Africa died as a result of no longer having access to the drugs that had been produced at the plant. Pundits must be consistent. If they are to denounce the Galactic Empire for the attack on Thyferra, then they must be consistent and recognise that the US government acts terrestrially in identical fashion to the Empire.

Al-Qaeda is not the Rebel Alliance.

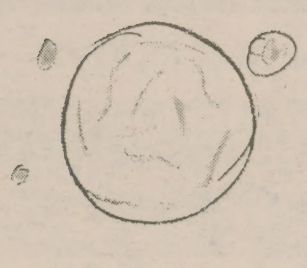
The Rebel Alliance is fighting for freedom from the galactic oppressor.

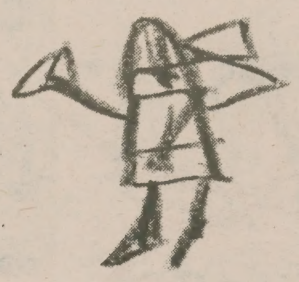
They may use terrorist techniques at times, and have a religious fundamentalist leadership, but on balance, the aim and product of the Rebels is greater freedom. The aim of al-Qaeda is enslavement. The former is a problematic band of freedom-fighters who occasionally engage in terrorist tactics, the other, simply a band of terrorists. But to be consistent, then we must recognize that they both are the products of massive injustice. The one of injustice in the galaxy, the other of injustice in the Middle East and further afield. However, if we are to remain free of hypocrisy, then we must condemn terrorism – which can only be defined as the murder or maiming of non-combatants, otherwise the word loses all meaning (e.g. "terrorism is when they attack us, but not when we attack them") – wherever it happens and whomever employs it as a tactic.



If we condemn the Galactic Empire when they murder billions, then we must condemn the Rebel Alliance when they murder (at least) hundreds of thousands. If we condemn al-Qaeda when they kill 2,700, then we must condemn the United States when they kill millions. The only possible position is an uncompromising advocacy of human rights and condemnation of human rights abuses, no matter who commits them, above all other considerations.

Star Wars Episode II: Attack of the Clones *will be released on DVD and VHS on Nov. 12.*





In the Flesh: Danny Michel comes to woo

by Aurea Flynn

Danny Michel is coming back to Victoria. This will be Michel's third visit to the west coast in the last 12 months. One would think that the constant touring would spin even the most dedicated artist into a squirrelly dislocated state.

But the frantic touring scene is what Michel wants.

"Actually, I hope that the touring will be much busier after I release my next album this spring," says Michel.

Stars like Michel live for the tour – it keeps them sparkling.

"I won't have my band with me [in Victoria] though," says Michel. "I'd prefer it, but I can't because it's too expensive to travel with a band."

But he'd like to. In fact, he'd like to be a big star and have the freedom and financial backing of a big record label.

"Newton's Apple," the first track on In the Belly of a Whale (Michel's most recent release), hints at his dreams of big breaks and cool record deals.

"Three cheers for Hollywood, there's Gold in them there hills... and I'm going to get me some," sings Michel. And, if he keeps up his current rate of expansion as a lyricist and performer, Michel will indeed get him some.

Without a record contract, Michel has had to opt for self-propulsion.

"I would have signed a record label if anyone had offered me one," he says. "But, they didn't. So, I went independent instead."

Michel not only writes, records and produces his own albums, but also manages to update his extensive website (www.dannymichel.com), and manage his own marketing.

Michel has released four albums since launching his solo career in 1997. And he has regularly toured North America from the start, both as a solo act and with other bands, including Jonathan Richman, Cheap Trick, Sarah Harmer, Blue Rodeo, and Apples in Stereo. Judging by Michel's pace thus far, it is apparent that his ambitions of insurmountable greatness will inevitably be realized.

> I love all music, and I love to experiment with many different sounds.
>
> *Danny Michel*

Michel enjoys the freedom that the independent artist's lifestyle provides. Having a recording studio at home in Toronto merely nurtures the artistic process.

"I enjoy working at home, I can go at my own pace," Michel says. "If I wake up at 3 a.m. with an idea, I can get right on it."

As Michel has shown, the absence of support from a record label has allowed him the freedom of multiple artistic pursuits.

"I love all music, and I love to experiment with many different sounds," he says. "That's why my last album contained so many different styles."

Different styles? Michel's career has been a reflection of his self-proclaimed love of diversity: he started as an '80s cover band in high school, and moved through reggae, folk, and current rock sounds. Michel is only typifyable as diverse and expansive. In fact, he surprised many of his folk-loving fans with his 2001 release *In the Belly of a Whale*, which had an unmistakable pop-rock slant. This leads his fans to wonder what Michel will produce next spring on his new album.

His upcoming show at Lucky Bar on Oct. 26 will give his current fans, and those first timers to Michel's work, a taste of his current trajectory.

"You can expect to hear some of my new stuff in Victoria, and some of my old stuff too," says Michel.

What we will be definitely seeing, and hearing, this time around is Michel and his guitar doing what they do best – giving the audience an intimate acoustic performance at the highest caliber the Canadian pop-rock scene has to offer.

Michel's lyrical wizardry is second to none. The subjects of his songs range in content from the 'out-there' of outer space to the 'deep-within' of love, dreams and nightmares. Michel is a perceptive, sensitive artist with a knack for arranging melodic sounds with insightful lyrics.

The lyrics of "Snowglobe" (from *In the Belly of a Whale*) are a descriptive portrayal of a cold and crisp winter night in Toronto, expressed through Michel's soft vocals and smooth guitar riffs. This song leaves its listeners with the taste of spiced rum on their tongues and a yearning for lost loves in their hearts.

For those who prefer more cool-handed lyrics and musical styles, "Fireworks" (from the same album), is your song.

"Actually, 'Fireworks' is about a nightmare I was having for a couple of weeks," says Michel. "I figured that writing a song about it might help to work it out.".

"Fireworks" is a David Lynch-esque tale of an encounter between a traveling salesman, a femme fatale, and a suitcase full of fireworks. But the guitar is where it's at in this piece, and for that, you'll just have to buy the CD – or come down to the show and check it out live.

The live audience is what keeps artists like Michel coming back to Victoria. So, put down your books for a night, take a walk down to Lucky Bar and enjoy Danny Michel, in the flesh.

Danny Michel and guest Kathleen Edwards play at Lucky Bar Oct.26.

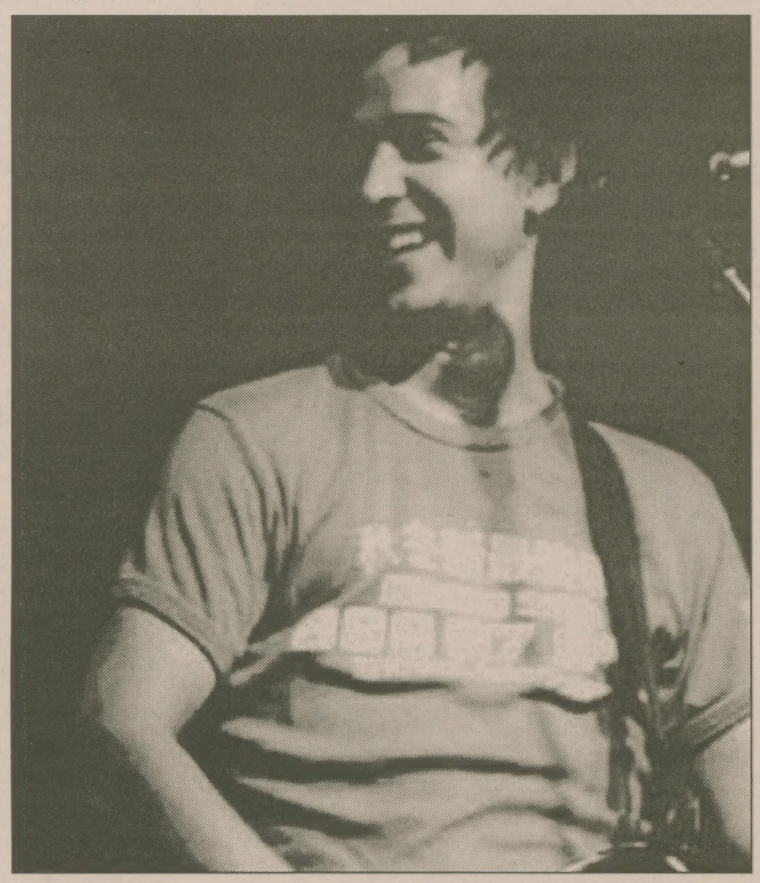


photo by Kim Hayworth

One of Canada's finest singer-songwriters, Michel always rocks the house.

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Funk it up: poetry and personality with one of our own

by Katrina Sark

There is a fine line between personal experience and art, and Carla Funk has found that poetry is a fusion of both. Funk's phrases pierce right through you. Her poems have depth and reflection that is rare.

In her new book, *Head Full of Sun*, Funk takes her readers on a journey through time that begins with Eve and ends with a young woman with "a bellyful of sins". In the centre of this collection, Funk has created an "Alphabet of Psalms" -26 poems, modeled after Psalm 199, which uses each letter of the Hebrew alphabet for its 22 segments.

The title *Head Full of Sun* came out of one of the poems. "There is a list of images throughout the poems, like light, fire, blood, all bright colors," says Funk. "The title and the cover painting show a burst of light, and inspiration, and creativity rooted in faith."

Some difficulties in writing the book included "finding the line between spilling secrets and writing a poem," says Funk.

Funk grew up in Vanderhoof, B.C. She completed her MA in English Literature at UVic, where she currently teaches. Her first book of poetry, *Blessing the Bones into Light,* came out in 1999 and featured biblical themes, like the wives of Solomon, which she used as a thread to connect to her next book.

Carla's use of Biblical images and themes springs from her upbringing. "Coming from a Mennonite background the Bible was the first introduction to literature," she says. "Later I went back to use some forms out of the Bible to see what I could make out of it."

Funk became interested in writing very early. The small-town environment of her youth was a "breeding ground for writers," she says, because one was forced to "construct fantasies in order to survive boredom."

Funk's family encouraged her love of reading. Inspired by such writers as e.e. cummings and Leonard Cohen, Funk became interested in the playfulness of language. In her studies at UVic, Funk was greatly encouraged and supported by people like renowned local poet Patrick Lane.

Music has always been another source of inspiration for Funk. "I grew up studying classical piano," she says. "It helps me in writing. You learn to find music in actual words."

As a writer Funk stresses the importance of the details of life. "If writers don't notice small things around us, who will? I am always inspired by art that is authentic, born out of something real," she says.

As for the future, Funk will continue working on poetry and fiction. "I would love to write a book about my small town. I love creative non-fiction. I would like to explore that by writing about small-town living."

When asked for some words of inspiration for writers, Funk replies, "Read a lot. And read widely. Your reading level always determines your writing level."

photo submitted

Carla Funk is a local poet on the rise

Carla Funk reads at the Greater Victoria Public Library Oct.26

The KY Corral

An intimate exchange. Presented by Sheldon & Stoppage, *The Martlet's* sultans of schwing.

Dear Sheldon & Stoppage,

My partner, who I have been seeing for five months, seems to think that a quick fuck and a goodnight kiss is "great sex."

I don't. So what can I do?

Frustrated and frisky,

UVic

Stoppage: Ah, the old favorite: *bad sex.* It's up there in the famous five – along with sexual perversion, infidelity, overcoming sexual incompatibility, and communication failure in terms of sex.

Sheldon: Think about it, most of those topics are about people having bad sex. Which sucks.

Stoppage: People don't write in to us if they're having great sex.

Sheldon: That's because they're too busy having great sex. Even good sex is still not great sex.

Stoppage: That's a very female perspective. For men, bad sex can still be pretty damn good.

Sheldon: Unless you can't get off. I've had one of those. Been there. Done that. Disappeared to the bathroom for five minutes afterwards.

Stoppage: We all have, dear. That's the point; if a quick fuck and a goodnight kiss is enough to pop your corn, then this lethargic lothario is, like, sex-on-a-stick.

However.

Because you've written us, F&F, it's obvious you're left in a sticky situation. Or not.

Sheldon: There's a reason to keep trying for great sex, but it's a good idea to respect your partner's desires. "Bad sex" is usually a euphemism for "bad communication." Or worse, "bad relationship."

Stoppage: So maybe good sex is a better ideal than great sex if it involves communication and understanding your partner better in the sack and out. When sex is bad, it's generally really bad.

Sheldon: If my partner thought a fuck and a kiss was great sex I'd boot his/her ass out of bed/off the kitchen counter/out of the deli lineup in Thrifty's until they could make my knees tremble.

Stoppage: Mind you, a quick fuck and a kiss in the deli lineup at Thrifty's is raising the bar pretty high.

Sheldon: You've two choices, F&F. You can kick his/her ass out of bed/kitchen counter/deli lineup. Or you can up the ante, if you'll forgive the expression - get your act together and start talking. *Both of you.*

Stoppage: Or you can add to the "sexual perversion" of society and invest in a vibrator. They're a lot more reliable.

Sheldon: Don't forget the industrial pack of AA batteries.

This week's sex tip: Try the deli lineup. Order the cabbage rolls and go for it...

Feeling frustrated? Reckon you've got the minerals to make us blush? If you have a question (or a sex tip) contact Sheldon & Stoppage. We are not proud.

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call for nominations

UVic Blue and Gold Circle Award Winners 2002

Front: (l-r) Salma Kahale, Krista Thompson, Maya Gislason, and Rodney Wilts
Middle (l-r) Jordan Anderson, Tessa Campbell, Sandrine de Finney, Stephen MacDonald.
Back (l-r) Stephen Kennedy, Danny Jaswal and Keith Bustard.
Not present: Neelam Sandhu, Anika L .

UVic Blue and Gold Circle Awards

High marks aren't limited to the classroom. UVic students also excel in the community, on sports teams and in the arts. If you know a UVic student who is both outstanding in the classroom and the community, consider nominating him or her for a Blue and Gold Circle Award.

This award honours students who maintain high academic standards while performing community service, and/or participating in sports or the fine arts. Winners will be announced in the spring.

To nominate a UVic student for a Blue and Gold Circle Award, call UVic's Student Awards and Financial Aid office at 721-8423. www.uvic.ca/safa

University of Victoria

Making enemies: Pollock's SATCO gets overt and out there

by Katrina Sark

Mitch Pollock, already gracing UVic's Phoenix Theatre stage in *The Imaginary Invalid* will soon be appearing in another show – his own.

Put on by The Student Alternative Theatre Company (SATCO), *How to Create an Enemy in 10 Easy Steps* is about how, "corporate media, especially in the States, is brainwashing people into believing what they want," says Pollock.

Polock wrote the play because he felt a need for more political theatre in Victoria.

"Especially now with the crisis in Iraq," he says, "when media is censored, it is a way of showing this idea and giving people a choice to see the other story."

Pollock was inspired by a song from the punk band Antiflag.

"One night the idea just struck me," he says. "I had to get out of bed and write it down, creating a play around the song."

Some of the themes of the play are how people in different countries, like the US and Afghanistan, develop different views of the same situation because they are equally propagandized, and how the world leaders are "missing out on an emotion" like love while pursuing revenge.

Pollock realizes that a lot of people might not like the play because its message shows a viewpoint that is often concealed and repressed.

"I was surprised to find that even on such a liberal campus [as UVic] there are so many right-wing people," he says.

"Coming from a small town like Kelowna, I used to have one view, one opinion – a bubble viewpoint. But being at school and in the theatre program opened my mind. And if there is one person we can reach with the idea, it'll be worth it."

The play should hopefully attract a variety of people, and its timing couldn't be better with war being constantly in the news.

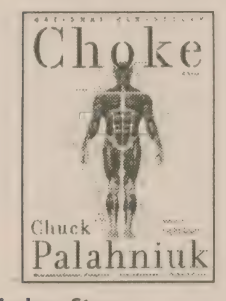
"The breakpoint might be the day we open the show," says Pollock. "CNN wouldn't touch the real reasons why Iraq is about to be attacked, and why Afghanistan is being ignored. It's a political maneuvre to gain seats in congress, and their message is if you're against war, you're against America. It's good to see the other side of the story."

How to Create an Enemy in 10 Easy Steps plays Oct. 29 to 31 and Nov.1 at the Phoenix Theatre.

photo by Jocelyn Beyak

10-step program: SATCO makes enemies.

Choke on this: Palahniuk's new teaser of old tricks



by Lindsey Starr

I liked the movie *Fight Club*. Yeah, it was violent, dark, and a bit unbelievable at times – but at least it was original.

You have to give it that.

So when I was browsing the bookstore and spotted *Choke*, the latest book by the same author, Chuck Palahniuk, my interest was piqued.

I quickly read the back cover like a grocery list to make sure it contained all the same surreal and anarchistic aspects of the movie. Lead character a recovering sex addict – check. Twelve-step support group frequenting – check again. Lead character fakes choking at restaurants in order to procure money for his ailing mother's hospital bills – yes, yes, *yes!*

All neuroses seemed present and accounted for so I settled in for what I was sure would be an unforgettable read.

Choke is focused around Victor Mancini, a 25-year-old medical school drop-out, whose sexual obsessions and perversions keep him from achieving anything that remotely resembles normalcy.

He frequents twelve-step programs for sexual compulsives but is unable to get past the fourth step and consequently nulls the other three by repeatedly sleeping with all the other female patrons.

Victor spends his free time pretending to choke in restaurants, in hopes that his rescuers will later feel responsible for him and send him money.

Which they always do.

He then takes the money and manages to keep his mother alive for one month longer.

Victor's mother is crazy. She spent time in jail as a young woman for hypnotic prostitution, kidnapping her son from various foster families, and switching the bottles of color in hair dye boxes. Her life, she feels, is a failure because she "was always against something – never for anything."

Victor, understandably, is what he is because of the brainwashing he received from her as a child. Heap onto the mix that she won't admit who his real father is, and you have the basic premise of the novel.

Mother-son feel good novel this ain't. Things only get stranger.

Palahniuk's writing style is quick, sarcastic, and he obviously enjoys his characters, but they lack development.

I didn't feel like I knew Victor any better at the end of the book than I did at the beginning. I still just felt sorry for him.

Palahniuk's excessive use of his own catch phrases also gets a bit repetitive. For example, Palahniuk punctuates everything Victor thinks about in terms of a medical prognosis – or as he calls it "the see alsos." As in, See also: Gets Annoying.

See also: Gets Boring.

Palahniuk's other favorite line is "[blank] isn't the right word, but it's the first one that comes to mind." And Palahniuk doesn't use these self-created phrases sparingly – he goes for full-blown saturation. I think I counted 15 in one short chapter.

Regardless of any minor annoyances at Palahniuk's writing, I enjoyed the book. I mean, I didn't feel the same elation as after viewing *Fight Club* for the first time but I respect the obvious creativity and care Palahniuk takes in creating his world. As the blurb on the back of the book says, "Chuck Pahalaniuk is the visionary we need, and the satirist we deserve."

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Sports call

Psalm 23:

Eulogy for a has-been

The Martlet's Luke Lin puts shame in Michael Jordan's game

by Luke Lin

Michael Jordan has retired from basketball more times than Allen Iverson has been arrested. The league has enough young studs - the precocious Kobe Bryant and the aforementioned 76er - to market the game. There's no need for weak-kneed Jordan to lumber up and down the court when the NBA has younger, spring-heeled superstars to showcase.

Jordan's latest comeback was (supposedly) fuelled by his desire to teach Washington how to win. An admirable intention, yes, but last year MJ went down with a season-ending knee injury and the Wizards won only 37 games, missing the playoffs for the nth straight season.

At least he taught them the value of consistency.

With the new season primed for tip-off, will Jordan swallow his pride and relinquish his spot in the Wizards' starting lineup? He says he's open to the possibility of coming off the bench for the first time in his career. At last check, Vegas had those odds at 1,000,000:1.

Jordan's an extremely stubborn man. Although his bullishness played a role in his legendary career, it's not doing him any favours now. He will not go quietly.

Last season wasn't the first time Jordan embarrassed himself. In 1994, after leading the Chicago Bulls to their third straight championship, he retired. At the time, he said he had nothing left to accomplish on the court.

He turned to the diamond, landing a spot on the Chicago White Sox's AA affiliate. He played only 127 games for the Birmingham Barons, batting .202 and leading the league in errors. What was he thinking?

His sports swap occurred amid speculation of his alleged gambling problems. It wouldn't surprise me if this was done to divert further inquest. Jordan's image was, and remains void of any DUI arrests, sexual assaults, or drug charges. Gambling charges could've leveled his iconic status and cost him millions in lost endorsements.

Less than two years later, he returned to the league. After three more seasons with the Bulls, he retired again. In 2001, he came back again, this time to the basement-dwelling Washington Wizards, a team he owns. Is anyone else suffering from vertigo? Déja-vu?

Sure, Jordan averaged 22.9 ppg last season - a figure most players would take in a heartbeat. But those numbers are well off his career average of 31.0 ppg. In spite of his age, we've come to expect more from Jordan: acrobatic underhand scoops and gravity-defying dunks, not countless air balls, and endless double and triple pump fakes.

Even his protruding tongue lacks swagger.

The thought of Jordan icing his knees and gasping for air during every timeout saddens me deeply.

Who am I kidding?

I hope his Airness gets dunked on, teaches the Wizards to go 0-82, and abdicates the game for good. Pray he doesn't have aspirations for hockey.

New & improved Vikes! More points guaranteed!

by Iain McLetchie

photo by Jocelyn Beyak

Practice makes perfect? The Vikes certainly hope so. You should too.

UVic women's basketball has simple plans. After slogging through a disappointing rebuilding year last season, the Vikes spent the summer trying to regain the focus that has been a hallmark of Vikes teams in the past, particularly by concentrating on fundamentals.

According to head coach Brian Cheng, the work started as soon as the team's 9-16 campaign hobbled to a close.

"The team worked hard in the summer and really renewed their commitment to excellence. I think we've set the necessary foundations for the trappings of success and improved overall, both teamwise and individually."

Perennial Canada West All-Star Lindsay Anderson led the off-season charge. Although she averaged 16.4 ppg last season, it was a frustrating campaign. She enters her final season with a renewed commitment.

"Last season wasn't fun for any of us," she says. "[The team] decided we needed to be active in making this year better. We couldn't sit on our hands."

Veteran forward Krystal O'Byrne agrees.

"Our success in the past was often based on being active in the summer and getting together as a team during that time," she says.

A lack of scoring depth hobbled the Vikes last year. After Anderson, none of the other Vikes managed double figures – Lindsay McDonald, now graduated, was second on the depth chart with 8.8 ppg. As a result of the scoring imbalance, Anderson often faced gimmick defenses.

"It's easy to stop a team with only one threat," she says.

Cheng agrees. "Lindsay's a very good player, but it's tough to be good when teams are scouting you," he says. "We needed the team to step up. Sometimes they did and sometimes they didn't."

The key for this group, according to Cheng, will be the emergence of one or two players as dominant low-post scorers, something UVic has lacked since Janet McLachlan left the program three years ago.

O'Byrne, one of the players Cheng is looking to, knows why the forwards need to be stronger offensively.

"If we get the ball in and force [other teams] to defend inside, it will open up the outside," she says. "We have really good outside shooting this year, but they'll be in your face if you can't threaten opponents with an inside game."

McMaster transfer Dani Everett will help UVic build up the outside attack. In accordance with league regulations, the former Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) rookie of the year spent last season watching from the sidelines.

Everett can score in buckets, as evidenced by her 28-point preseason effort against Calgary, but her impact will be mostly felt through her attitude and experience.

"She has so much energy and enthusiasm and is totally committed to the team," O'Byrne says of Everett.

"Dani's a really good leader and brings lots of hard work and energy." Anderson agrees.

"We have a lot of young people on our team," she says. "It's great to have another player who's been through the CIS and been to Nationals."

Having two scorers with the abilities of Anderson and Everett – conference rookies of the year the same season (Anderson in Canada West and Everett in Ontario) – will spread the court and give the post players extra room to maneuver.

In order to maintain their renewed confidence, the Vikes will have to keep things in perspective in the tough CanWest Conference.

"We need to take it a week at a time; break it into digestible pieces," Cheng says. "We still need to improve to be very successful."

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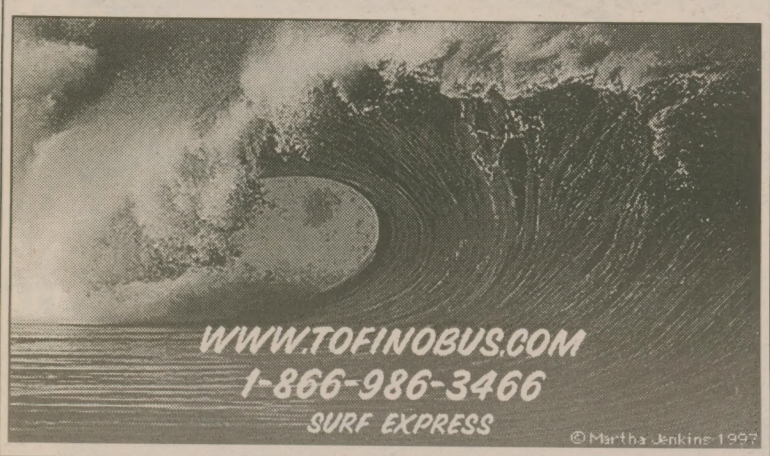

O captain! My captain!

photo by Jennifer Bowles

by Ruth Knoop

If time is a measure of affection, Gillian Bigsby's in love. With soccer. The Vikes centre midfield and co-captain has been playing soccer for over three-quarters of her life, since she was five.

Born and raised in Kamloops, Bigsby was involved in multiple sports growing up.

"I just liked running around and getting dirty," the 22-year-old science student says. "I still do."

Head coach Tracy David commends Bigsby for what she brings to the Vikes.

"She leads by example," says David. "She's always ready to pick up the girls when they are having a hard time. We rely on that."

Although a hamstring injury at the start of the season forced her to the bench for several matches, she's worked her way back to good health, and into the starting line-up.

"Gillian's not the kind of player you want to play against," David says. "She's tough and hard, and always gives 100 per cent, with a never-say-die attitude."

That said, the life of a varsity athlete isn't easy. There's little space in a schedule that includes training every weekday, weekend matches – often out of town – and school assignments.

In the spring, Bigsby intends to graduate with a degree in biology, with hopes of continuing her education, possibly in physiotherapy.

"My ultimate goal is medicine, but it's hard to get the grades for it," Bigsby says. "If I had more time it would be easier."

If Bigsby could change one thing in the past, she says she would've come to UVic in her first year, rather than spending two years at the University College of the Cariboo in Kamloops before transferring.

"I'd take being a Vike over playing college soccer any day."

When deciding to transfer, Bigsby chose UVic over UBC for its climate as much as for its successful soccer program.

"I like the weather here," she says. "There's no winter, so you can be outside all year. The campus is super laid-back, and the people are outgoing."

However social the campus population may be, few are coming out to watch the Vikes play. During regular and post season games, attendance at Centennial Stadium rarely exceeds 50, and these are often composed of visiting teams.

Bigsby wishes things were different.

"I wish the school was more oriented together," she says. "It suffers from [a lack of] school spirit."

To date, Bigsby regards the Vikes' third-place finish at the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) championship during her first year at UVic as her biggest accomplishment. She hopes to add a national championship to her list of career highlights before she retires.

The Vikes have two games remaining before the playoffs, where the school that couldn't sway Bigsby to the lower mainland will likely be the biggest opposition.

"It all comes down to whether or not we can beat UBC, "she says.

by David Breitman

As long as Sean Battistoni can remember, he's wanted to be a part of the Vikes soccer team.

A standout athlete at Oak Bay High School, Battistoni was heavily recruited by Canadian universities. He turned down countless offers, opting to don Vikes colours.

"The decision wasn't that tough," he says. "I wanted to get onto the field and help them as much as I could."

Battistoni, a third-year history major, has been central to the Vikes' success this season, literally. The all-star centre midfielder, and team captain, has helped UVic become one of the best teams in the country.

The Vikes, undefeated and currently ranked third in the nation, have been nearly flawless on the field. Battistoni doles out the credit.

"[Head coach Bruce Wilson] pushes us really hard because he knows we're capable of doing great things," he says. "We owe all of our success to him and the rest of the coaching staff."

Battistoni is also quick to praise fellow midfielders Tynan Brouwer and Kingsley Jones, as well as the depth of the Vikes lineup.

"We play well as a unit and use each other's strengths. We have a lot of good young players at every position. We know there's always going to be someone to step up if we need it."

The Vikes close out the regular season at Centennial Stadium this Thursday against Saskatchewan, and on Sunday, when they face the first-place Alberta Golden Bears in a game that could decide the top spot in the Canada West conference.

"[It's] probably our most important game of the season," says Battistoni. "The road to the nationals goes through Alberta."

Battistoni hopes the hometown crowd will help the Vikes take the conference before Canada West playoffs next weekend in Edmonton, where they'll try to fulfill their goal of making it to nationals.

"[It's] been our goal since day one," says Battistoni. "We want the chance to show the country what we can do."

photo by Jennifer Bowles

Varsity roundup

Soccer
Oct. 19 Men 3 UofL 0
Women 1 UofL 0
Oct. 20 Men 2 UofC 2
Women 2 UofC 0

Women's Field Hockey
CanWest Tournament #3
Oct. 18 Vikes 4 UofM 0
Oct. 19 Vikes 2 UofA 0
Oct. 19 Vikes 1 UfoC 0
Oct. 20 Vikes 0 UBC 1

CanWest award recipients: Lauren MacLean (All-Star; Player of the Year; Outstanding Contributor), Robyn Evans (Rookie of the Year), Sara Simpson (All-Star), Lynne Beecroft (Coach of the Year)

Rugby
Women
CanWest Championship
Oct. 18 Vikes 0 UBC 8
Oct. 18 Vikes 0 UofA 32
Oct. 19 Vikes 0 UofL 10
Men
Oct. 19 Vikes 19 UBC 24

Basketball
Women
UofA Exhibition Tournament
Oct. 19 Vikes 53 UofA 49
Oct. 20 Vikes 61 UofC 72
Men
Oct. 25,26 vs. UofA @ McKinnon

Rowing
Head of the Charles Regatta
Women's lightweight fours 1st
Women's heavyweight fours 2nd
Men's eight 12th
Upcoming @ Elk Lake
Oct. 26 Head of the Gorge
Oct. 27 Head of the Elk

Visit www.uvic.ca/vikes for the when and where.

VIPIRG

Vancouver Island Public Interest Research Group
Annual General Meeting and Election of Directors
November 14, 2002: 7:00 pm in the Grad Lounge

All current VIPIRG community members and UVIC students who have not collected a refund this year are members in good standing and eligible to vote in both the AGM and election. Students will need their valid student ID.

Agenda:
- Appointment of meeting Chair
- Approval of VIPIRG's financial statements
- Review of the year's activities at VIPIRG
- **Candidate Statements & Question Period with candidates for the Board of Directors**
- **VOTE! Polling for Board Election**
- Additional business

All members are eligible to vote, or run for a seat on the collective. For information on running for a position as director, and to acquire a nomination form, contact Stacy Chappel at 250.472.4558 or drop by SUB B120

Deadline for nominations: Friday November 8, 4:30 pm
Additional Elections Polling: 10-4 at the VIPIRG office SUB B122, or at the AGM, 7 pm in the Grad Lounge.

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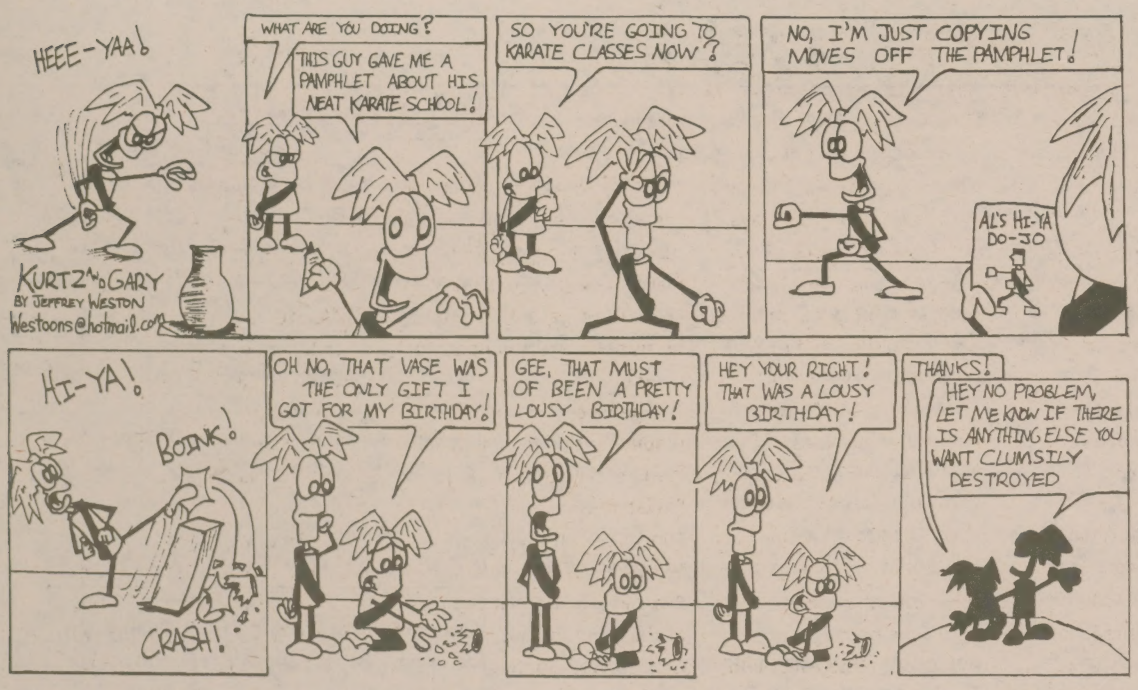
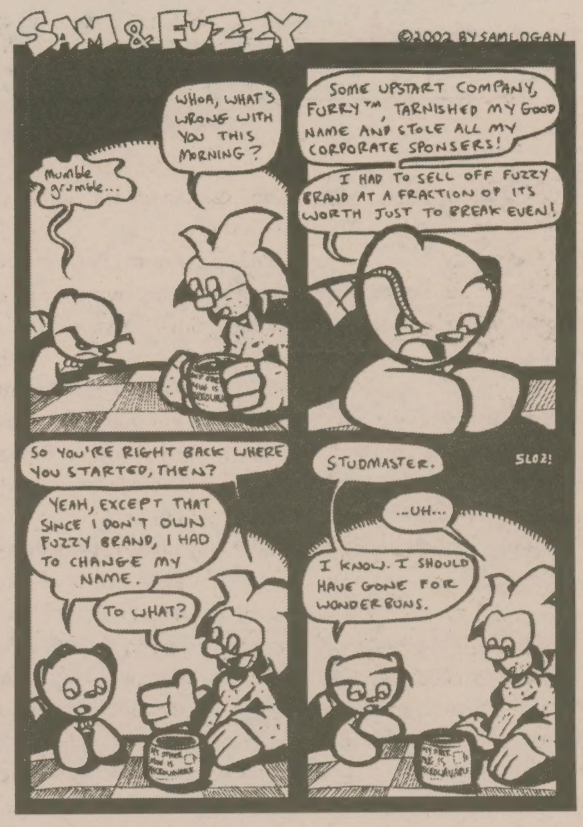
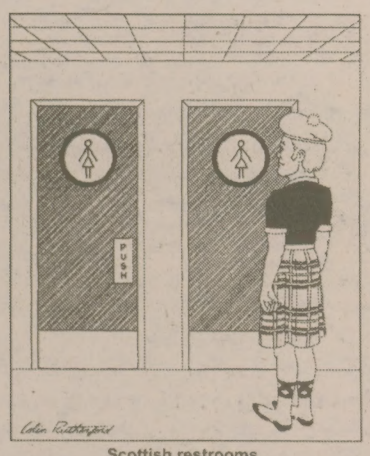
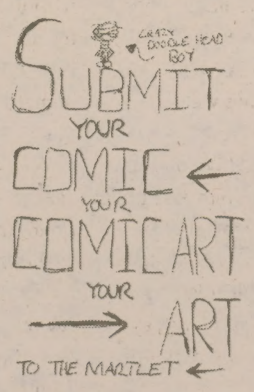

HEEE-YAA!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
THIS GUY GAVE ME A PAMPHLET ABOUT HIS NEAT KARATE SCHOOL!
SO YOU'RE GOING TO KARATE CLASSES NOW?
NO, I'M JUST COPYING MOVES OFF THE PAMPHLET!
AL'S HI-YA DO-JO
KURTZ^n GARY
BY JEFFREY WESTON
Westoons@hotmail.com
HI-YA!
BOINK!
CRASH!
OH NO, THAT VASE WAS THE ONLY GIFT I GOT FOR MY BIRTHDAY!
GEE, THAT MUST OF BEEN A PRETTY LOUSY BIRTHDAY!
HEY YOUR RIGHT! THAT WAS A LOUSY BIRTHDAY!
THANKS!
HEY NO PROBLEM, LET ME KNOW IF THERE IS ANYTHING ELSE YOU WANT CLUMSILY DESTROYED

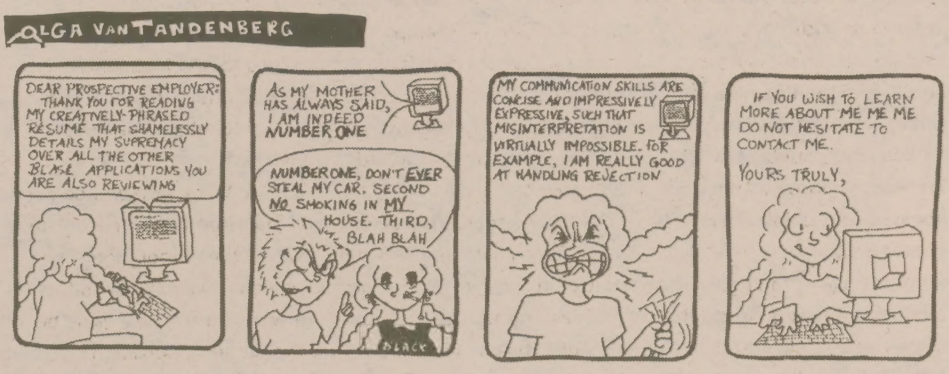

SAM & FUZZY
©2002 BY SAM LOGAN
WHOA, WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU THIS MORNING?
mumble grumble...
SOME UPSTART COMPANY, FURRY™, TARNISHED MY GOOD NAME AND STOLE ALL MY CORPORATE SPONSERS!
I HAD TO SELL OFF FUZZY BRAND AT A FRACTION OF ITS WORTH JUST TO BREAK EVEN!
SO YOU'RE RIGHT BACK WHERE YOU STARTED, THEN?
YEAH, EXCEPT THAT SINCE I DON'T OWN FUZZY BRAND, I HAD TO CHANGE MY NAME.
TO WHAT?
STUDMASTER.
SLOZ!
..UH...
I KNOW. I SHOULD HAVE GONE FOR WONDERBUNS.



Scottish restrooms.



OLGA VAN TANDENBERG


DEAR PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYER: THANK YOU FOR READING MY CREATIVELY-PHRASED RESUME THAT SHAMELESSLY DETAILS MY SUPREMACY OVER ALL THE OTHER BLASE APPLICATIONS YOU ARE ALSO REVIEWING
AS MY MOTHER HAS ALWAYS SAID, I AM INDEED NUMBER ONE
NUMBER ONE, DON'T EVER STEAL MY CAR. SECOND NO SMOKING IN MY HOUSE. THIRD, BLAH BLAH
MY COMMUNICATION SKILLS ARE CONCISE AND IMPRESSIVELY EXPRESSIVE, SUCH THAT MISINTERPRETATION IS VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE. FOR EXAMPLE, I AM REALLY GOOD AT HANDLING REJECTION
IF YOU WISH TO LEARN MORE ABOUT ME ME ME DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT ME.
YOURS TRULY,

Hockey Jargon
by Russell Rass
THE MEDIA OFTEN PORTRAYS HOCKEY PLAYERS AS BEING INTELLIGENT THROUGH RIGOROUS INTERVIEW TECHNIQUES.
FOR A HOCKEY PLAYER, THE ANSWERS ARE ALWAYS THE SAME -- REGARDLESS OF THE SITUATION.
Why did your team lose?
We did not score tonight.
Adam Foote
Simon Gagne
Ryan Smyth
LIBRARY
I'm just going to go in there and give it 110%
Need to work hard for the full 60 minutes.
STUDENT HOCKEY STAR
WAR VETERAN
We stuck with it, lost a few battles, won a few. But give the other team lots of credit.
Chris Drury
DOES IT MATTER WHAT THE SAY?
We just need to gain the opposing end—get lots of shots on target—find more scoring opportunities.
Theo Fleury
We have to cycle the word (puck) down low.
Trevor Linden
JOURNALIST
The body is fatigued and cannot fulfill the mind's intentions.
AHL journeyman trying to crack NHL line-up
PHILOSOPHER
Not really. The game relies on luck.
-Yang
22/10/02

ROOMIES
BY GRAHAM STARK
I'LL TAKE THIS ROOM
SORRY, I ALREADY CALLED IT
AND THAT ONE?
TED'S GOT IT
HE'S NOT EVEN HERE
DON'T PISS YOURSELF. THERE'S ANOTHER ROOM
I HOPE SO. WHAT ABOUT MIKE?
HE'S GETTING A PILE OF NEWSPAPER IN THE CORNER OF THE BATHROOM
WELL, SO LONG AS HE'S NOT LEFT OUT
YAY! NEWSPAPER!

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on campus

Catholic Students' Association - Feast of All Saints liturgy at the Interfaith Chapel, UVic (near parking lot 6) Friday Nov. 1, 11:30 a.m. Come honour the saints and your departed loved ones who have inspired you personally. All students and staff welcome.

Calling all artists. The History in Art Student Society is holding a silent art auction Oct. 23 and 24. If you would like to make some money for your art, please contact historyinart@hotmail.com. Submissions no later than Oct. 21.

Art 380 presents Media Exchange 2002, an exhibition combining works from UVic and Camosun Art 100 students, in the main gallery of the Visual Arts building at UVic. Oct. 21 to 26, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. A reception will be held on Oct. 24 from 8 to 11 p.m. with refreshments available from 8 to 10. For more info, contact Paul Gibson (pgilson@uvic.ca) or Justin Muir (justinmuir@mac.com).

Pulse: A journal of anticolonial thought, expression and activism. Got thoughts on racism, colonization, privilege, power, or more? We want your poetry, artwork, letters, essays, books, stories, announcements, resources or photos for the next issue of our zine. Send submissions to ptagore@uvic.ca or drop off submissions to Proma Tagore, c/o English Department, third floor, Clearihue C Wing. Fax: 721-6498. Deadline for submissions: October 28, 2002.

Armed with Understanding lecture series presents, "The war on drugs and its impacts" with Susan Boyd. Ph.D. Thurs. Oct. 24 SUB B110A 1:30 p.m. Free. AND, "Building anti-racist classrooms and pedagogies" workshop and discussion by Proma Tagore, Tues. Nov. 5 CLEA C108 4 p.m. Free. All viewpoints welcome and encouraged to facilitate discussion.

Annual Pumpkin Sale Come and support UNICEF by purchasing a pumpkin in front of the SUB. 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 28 to 30.

Victoria Entrepreneurship Challenge Win $10,000. Come out to our "Forming a Team" workshop on Oct. 15, 7 to 9 p.m. HSD A240. Register online at www.gvec.ca by Nov. 1.

Silent Art Auction Are you looking fot that perfect piece of art to finish your decor? Then look no further than the History in Art Student Society Art Auction. Wed. Oct. 23, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Thurs. Oct. 24, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the SUB. Browse, hang out, chat, and buy some great art. For more info: historyinart@hotmail.com

Attention Golden Key Members Come out to our Halloween social, Oct. 31, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. in the small half of the Michèle Pujol room. Costume contest, games and refreshments. Tickets $4 available Mon. Oct. 27 at the GK office (CORA 250) Proceeds go to the United Way. Non-members welcome.

Victoria Hindu Parishad presents Diwali 2002 With a variety of Indian classical and semi-classical dances, Hindi and Punjabi songs, and other musical entertainment at University Centre Auditorium Oct. 26 at 7 p.m. Tickets, $10 adults, $8 students, $6 children under 12. Available from Island Video 475-1212.

Brown Bag Reading Series presented by the Writing Students' Union Fridays at noon to 1 p.m. in the Michèle Pujol Room. Oct 25, Carey Rudisill and Avi Lambert read from their works. Free.

UVic Cyclists: New bicycle lockers installed. These lockers are popular, so rent yours now. More info at web.uvic.ca/uvbikes or 721-8355.

off campus

Rally to stop the "Working Forest"
Sat., Oct. 19, Noon at Centennial Square; 12:30 p.m. at the legislature.
Please come to this most important, peaceful rally and help stop the proposed anti-protected areas law that gives incontestable logging rights on all of B.C.'s public forest lands. Speakers, street theatre, music.
Sponsored by the Western Canada Wilderness Committee.

Beginners' Sign Language Workshop
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 9 to 10. Designed to ensure that you will be able to communicate in sign langage in two days. Opportunity to understand deaf culture better. Improve your communication skills. Finger-spelling.
746-1073. Call after 6 p.m. Registration limited. $56 both days.

for sale

Big Garage Sale! Sat. Oct. 26. 10:30 a.m.
1156 May St. Furniture, plants, clothes, and other household items.
Yeah!! Be there.

Listen up wanna-be pimps and playas: cellphone for sale. $25. Call Mark at 386-3993.

Engl 101: 101 ways to improve your grades. e-book $4.50; booklet $6. trippinglightlybooks.com

SPSS (Stats) Grad Package New. Never opened. Original price, $279, now $170 O.B.O. Leave a message. 746-1073.

employment

Travel and teach English: Jobs guaranteed. Great pay. TESOL Certified in 5 days in-class (or online or by correspondence). Attend a FREE info seminar. FREE infopack: 1-888-270-2941 or www.globaltesol.com

Fact: A job may not provide security no matter how much education you have. Alternative: Self-employment = self-empowerment. Start now. Spend five to 10 hrs/wk. For more info call Ted or Donna at 478-2132.

employment wanted

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auto repair

General automotive repair. Engine swaps, clutches, brakes, electrical, tune-ups, etc. Student discount on labour and parts. 479-5036 or 744-3386.

hey you

Dangerous D: Checked the back issues. I call bullshit. Stelle.

That's Operation *Desert* Storm, not Operation *Dessert* Storm. The former is the war wherein 100,000 Iraqis were killed; the latter would be a hurricane of chocolate gateau or strawberry flan.

I saw Oprah last night. She's not dead, like you said.

wanted

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